The Chicago Tribune.

VOLUME 25. CHICAGO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1871. NUMBER 122.

WASHINGTON.

List of Standing Committees Announced in the Senate.

Work Preparing in Both Houses for the Abolition of the Internal Revenue Bureau.

The Cuban Question Considered in the House Foreign Relations Committee.

What is Being Done by the President-Makers.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The Republican Senate caucus of to-day's session, reported the standing committees to-day, with but few changes, in the way in which they were arranged during the Caucus Committee was in many respects, and at least two of the members seriously desired that Sumner be restored to his old place at the head of the Foreign Relations Committee, by reason of special fitness for the place, and because of the existing dissensions in the party might be put in the way of the Administration. So far as the President was concerned, it was indicated that he had no objection, and Fish required to be pacified, but that this official would probably decline for some time yet, and owing to the complication, which required a delay between the head of the State and the Foreign Relations Committee, was sacrificed, for the present at least, to the Chairmanship of the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Cognitive made its report to-day to Sumner's name was not even on the report was accepted without

POLITICAL SITUATION.

Senators, so far as they will express on this point, seem to be generally in a passive policy. Several Democrats from Illinois and Indiana made up with the names of Greeley and Southern Democrats, however, and with this arrangement, and think it ticket is absolutely necessary it ask better to reverse the names. A immense amount of this talk-making going on here, what co-operation or system. Any purpose to hold a caucus, either during the recess, in order to discuss matters, and agree upon some pro- ing the approaching Presidential campaign. Republican Senators Sumner, Trumbull, Tipton, Fenton deny the truth of all stories which point them as being candidates or as to the Presidential succession. In fact it may be stated that Trumbull opposed action of the House going the purport likewise he is represented all movement to defeat whatever claims that he does not be- dies whose opinions are so freely

TRADITIONAL BILL.

Introduced in the House to-day, the right of appeal to the Supreme Court in cases arising in the Territories, a clause to the prosecution now pending against the Mormons. It was referred to the Committee on Territories, and owing to the omission of that committee, will be reported on favorably. Taft, was appointed a member of the Territorial delegation.

THE CUBAN QUESTION.

Yesterday, the Committee on Foreign Affairs had a general discussion upon the Cuban question particularly upon the resolution provided for carrying into effect the provisions of the Constitution, to prevent fitting out in foreign countries from dealing. The committee instructed General Butler to report a resolution to the House, and to that effect.

REPORT FOR INTERNAL REVENUE BUREAU.

Mr. Skinner gave notice to-day that he would introduce to reduce the rate of taxation, and to abolish some of the useless offices of the Internal Revenue Bureau, somewhat anticipates the Senate Finance Committee in the matter. It is understood that Messrs. Morrill and Morton Blair are preparing bills to this effect.

CENSUS.

It is said that Mr. Walker will ask Congress for the current fiscal year to defray the expenses of the census. Of this amount is needed to pay Marshals and the actual expenses of the census to be taken. The eighth census costs $1,500,000, the increase and work of the present census is much the

PROTECTING DEMANDED.

Member of the House is flooding the Committee on Ways and Means with petitions on the subject of defalcations, and the petitions are signed by those entrusted with the money. It will call for a sum total of the defalcations in the government through the present administration

THE SECRET FRAUD INVESTIGATION

is still going vigorously in the Interior Department.

GRANT WILL NOT ACCEPT.

It is said that he will not accept the cancellation of Chairmanship of the Committee

[To the Associated Press.]

NOMINATIONS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The following nominations were made in the Senate: John W. Douglass, Commissioner of Internal Revenue; Wm. Morrison, Assistant Attorney General; Daniel B. Hagan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Utah; James Neville, United States Attorney; Edward Wilkins, Secretary; Lafayette Maxwell, United States Marshal for the Middle District of Tennessee; J. W. Fisher, Chief Justice of the Territory of Wyoming; Edward R. Hoyt, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois; Jacob Sharp, United States Attorney for Utah; Thomas Fitch, United States Attorney for Nevada; Horace H. Harrison, Attorney for the District of Tennessee.

Also, Robert Forster, Minn.; Wm. Hale, O.; J. M. Lewis, Barnesville, Ohio; O. Hiram Rose, Norristown; Rattle Creek, Mich.; Clinton Spencer, Mich.; Clinton Spencer,

ON THE TREASURY.

Mr. Harden's defalcation has amounted to a large amount, in the neighborhood of $100,000. Many of various portions within the State has been stolen from the Treasury of the Treasury Department. Whose Mr. Harden. Alluded to, Secretary Boutwell, the detection of Johnson's guilt. Mr. Harden's dealing in gold for some time.

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Consumption to the Surface, and Cure of Other Complaints. This distinguished remedy is the result of which the Inventor was cured, and thinking that the afflicted, will be very liable to be disappointed in purchasing it, he considers it his duty to make known the means by which he was cured. Having a sacred regard for truth, he cannot perform their functions, and strength to the system, and thereby remove the disease. Those who doubt are requested to address him, and they will receive by return mail the information they desire, free of charge. Dr. Hoyt's Pills. These pills clean the stomach and bowels of all dead and morbid matter, and restore the liver to healthy action, and thereby to the whole system. They are purely vegetable, and contain no mineral. Full directions in every language accompany each box of Pills. Price of all diseases like the above, 25 cents per box. Sold by all druggists throughout the United States and Canada. Principal Depot, 335 Broadway, New York. Sold by DR. C. McLANE, Pittsburgh, Pa., Agents for the West. Sold by HOSTETTER & SMITH, and by druggists generally throughout the city.

Dr. Hoyt's Hair Dye.

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STATE LEGISLATURES.

Yesterday's Proceedings in the Illinois General Assembly.

Progress Made in the House on the Revenue Bill.

The Apportionment Bill Likely to Pass in its Present Shape.

Governor Brown's Message to the Missouri Legislature.

ILLINOIS.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 6.

THE MAYOR'S BILL.

It is only too plain that the bill to increase the powers of the Mayor of Chicago could have passed the House yesterday had it not been for the desire of Cook County members to amend it. Had it passed, any amendments which the Governor might have finally concluded were necessary could have been made in the Senate, and the House could have easily concurred in them. The Governor did not suggest; objections with the idea of stopping the bill in its course. His objections could be considered and discussed while the bill progressed. There is now no saying when the bill will come up again. Revenue, apportionment, and eminent domain are very apt to crowd it to the wall.

COOK COUNTY APPORTIONMENT.

The result of last night's meeting of the Cook County farmers's caucus is that they came to a harmonious understanding in regard to the division of the county into Senatorial Districts. Several of the members of the committee of nine who held that the action taken by the first meeting of the delegation was final. It was not to their interest to unsettle it, and they were willing to lend their sanction to a change. Those who did attend were and out voted, left with an understanding that they would not yield. It was therefore to be settled in the House, where the greater number of Cook County matters are settled, and will give a Democratic Senator and a side which makes unto itself the most friends in the House will carry its point, and it seems as if the Galloway plan will be the most likely to go there. In the Cook County delegation this plan has ten earnest opponents and not quite as many supporters. The latter are scattered, each one is claimed to have the endorsement of prominent Chicago Republicans.

CORRECTION.

By an unfortunate typographicalor telegraphic mistake, Mr. Short read, the other day, made to say in the debate on the Revenue bill that he would be in favor of taxing shares, and also the property represented by them. Of course he is not in favor of anything of the kind.

REVENUE BILL.

This morning the House resumed the consideration of the Revenue bill, and made slow but real progress, although matters of mere machinery received the benefit of nearly all the discussion. That important section, where the wording cuts off the double taxation of shares and of property represented by them, was passed without a solitary objection; but when the paragraph was reached which changes the day of voting from April to January, the fight was made and a move the change. This result is unfortunate. It is far easier for business men to make their returns on the 1st of January than on the 1st of April, and settlement of accounts, and every man knows his position. It is better for farmers, since on January 1 they have sold off their crops, received money, paid their debts, and know what their real position is. But there seems to be an impression among many members that April 1 and merchants have more money or goods on hand on April than in January, and that by listing at a later day would be of benefit. This is certainly the case when the farmer sets out to tax somebody else that that tax finally falls upon his own shoulders, and the more he endeavors to specially tax money, and those who deal in it, the more burdens he lands upon himself. The general convenience is so greatly advanced by having property listed in January, that this is to be hoped the amendment will be defeated in the House. To-morrow a proposition will come up to strike out the provision by which persons in listing moneys and credits are allowed to deduct from bona fide debts. Were January the time for listing, many of those debts of dealers which offset one another, and do not represent any real taxable value, would be settled; but the design of offering the amendment is either to force a deduction of the money owned on farm or cattle, or die, a little double taxation, so that the credits arising from the passage of goods through three or four hands, and the goods themselves, come up a sum liable for taxation three times the original value of the goods. The determination of the House not to take the Senate bill was more strongly marked to-day.

EMINENT DOMAIN BILL.

In the House, in the afternoon, the Eminent Domain bill was taken up, but was shoved out of the way for the purpose of taking up the Appropriation bill. The objections to the bill relating to city and suburbs, with an amendment intended to include birds.

Mr. STREVELL moved to amend the bill by striking out so much as provides for suit in the county where the offence is committed, and went rather out of his way to attack the provisions of the bill.

Mr. DORE defended the bill in an earnest appeal for the people suffering damage from the gravity and inhumanity of the man who is capable of but little more reason than the beast itself.

Mr. CHILCOTE opposed the bill on general principles.

Mr. DORE again defended the bill from the imputations of Mr. Titcher.

Mr. Strevell's amendment was adopted—yeas, 93; nays, 47.

Ordered to a third reading.

CITIES AND TOWNS.

On motion of Mr. KENALL, the bill relating to the incorporation of cities and towns was made the special order for Saturday.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS BACK.

Mr. LANGLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back bills relating to primary elections and to the manner and time to nominate practice relating to a jury before Magistrates; relating to Justices and constables, all of which were ordered printed.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

REVENUE BILL.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Revenue bill.

Mr. TOWNSEND moved that they wait till they get the Senate bill. The Senate bill, and then consider the two together.

Messrs. CUMMINGS and CARPENTER, of Cook, opposed the motion, since the House was able to pass its own bill, and they did not know when the Senate would mature a bill.

The former motion was lost two votes.

Mr. CASEY, of Jefferson, moved to strike out the provision listing real estate in the name of the lawful owner, and to insert a full description so as to have the real property listed in the name of the owner.

Several amendments were offered as to the person who should list the property of a deceased person, and the question was discussed at great length, but was not settled at present. One of two unimportant amendments were adopted to the section relative to listing property.

The next section taken up was in regard to listing the property of banks, telegraph, railroad, and other companies.

Mr. KING, of Cook, moved so to amend it that the owner of shares in any stock company shall not be required to ascertain whether the property of the company has been listed, in order to avoid listing his shares, but it shall be taken for granted that the company has listed the property. The amendment was adopted.

The seventh section was amended by making it read that moneys on railroad lands were not liable to taxation. It is provided for in another section, but there was a desire to have it made the strongest possible.

The ninth section, which requires property to be listed on the 1st of January, was read.

Mr. SPIGER moved to strike out January and insert April, which had been the day for some time. If property was assessed in January, the tax would not be collected before June. There would be difficulty about having rolls completed before the terms of office of the Assessors expired.

Mr. SHORT explained the reasons why the committee fixed on January. All business men settled their annual accounts on January 1st and they could tell how the stood. They had provided for the election of town officers at an earlier day.

Mr. STREVELL thought that the 1st of April would be much better for farmers than any other time.

Mr. HAINES was inclined to support the provision of the bill.

Mr. WAITE opposed the amendment. All accounts were settled at the beginning of the year, and it was a hardship to require men to make out a new list in April.

The amendment was adopted—yeas, 81; nays, 54, receiving the great body of the farming vote. Business men voting otherwise.

The committee rose, to set again to-morrow morning.

Mr. CUMMINGS offered an amendment to strike out the clause allowing persons to deduct from moneys and credits bona fide debts owing.

SALARY BILL AGAIN.

Senate bill to fix the salary of the Lieutenant Governor was read a second time.

The question on the motion to order bill to a third reading without going by the Committee of the Whole was carried.

BURNT RECORDS.

On motion of Mr. KING, of Cook, all bills to the Committee on Burnt Records were ordered printed.

SALARY BILL AGAIN.

In the afternoon the bill to fix the salary of Lieutenant Governor at $1,500 was taken up.

Mr. CARY moved to strike out $1,500 and insert $1,000.

A motion was made to refer to the Fees and Salaries of committee.

Mr. BARNES opposed it.

Mr. HAINES offered an amendment that the law remain in effect till January, 1873, and opposed a reference, since the bill would never get out of the Committee on Fees and Salaries, if it got there.

The motion to refer was lost.

Mr. GARDNER moved at the end of the present session each member of the House would have received about $1,400.

Mr. CARY'S amendment was lost—yeas, 70; nays, 85.

Mr. HARRIS' amendment was adopted.

The bill was ordered to a third reading.

EMINENT DOMAIN BILL.

The Eminent Domain Bill came up as by special order.

Mr. ROOT moved to postpone till the Revenue bill was furnished.

Messrs. NELSON and CUMMINGS wanted to go on with the subject.

Mr. PHELPS thought it wiser to dispose of the Apportionment bill first.

The motion to postpone was lost, and the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Eminent Domain bill.

Mr. STEVENSON moved to adjourn. Agreed to—yeas, 87; nays, 45.

MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 7.—Governor Brown's message was read to the Legislature to-day. Some of its principal features, not already mentioned, are as follows: He thinks the most effective remedy for the frauds practiced by officials in office is in limiting executive appointments to cases of emergency, and refer other elections to the people. He thinks the Democratic party resting upon the people of Missouri is found in taxes and duties, direct and indirect, levied by the General Government. They are much more unequally than all our other taxes put together, yet do not go into the National Treasury, but are spent largely in rewarding political favorites and partisans of favored classes.

The funded debt of the State is $17,000,000; assessed value of all taxable property in the State, $713,000,000; total receipts into the State Treasury for the past year, $3,373,691; disbursements, $3,178,196, of which $618,500.13 was principally for interest, $197,500 on account of the State Government, and the balance on account of the sinking fund, and $1,000,000 for railroad bonds in the Treasury, $441,196.

The county, township, and municipal indebtedness amounts to nearly $41,000,000, the largest portion of which is in railroad subscriptions. The total county school fund is $5,007,000. The school population is 1,000,000, of which 119,000 are colored. Whole number of children between the ages of 5 and 21 years, 627,000, and the whole number of children in the State between the ages of 4 and 21 years, 695,000. The number of pupils of all educational kinds in the State on the last of January, 1871, was 1,000. Much has been done in the way of construction, for. The capital invested in these roads, completed or under construction, is $117,342,311.

The Governor discusses the national political situation at great length. After reverting to the material welfare of the State, and congratulating the people on its prosperity, he says: "It is also a source of congratulation that its political influence has been signally enhanced by the wise policy of the Administration as compared with that by our last election. The advent of Republicans to power, and the consequent change in the policy of administration of the State has re-consecrated the principles of our fathers, and restored freedom to all, involved anew the principle of self-government acting through local organizations, established a purer civil service instead of that composed by the slavish ways of partisanship, limited the patriotic energies of a new people to their proper sphere, and left the great industrial interests of the country to their natural laws, rather than rehabilitate itself in dead issues of the past." He then enumerates what liberalism has done, and drives at length the distinction between the Republican idea, and the idea which he says has been foisted upon the Republican party. In the discussion of this subject he makes a powerful arraignment of the administration party and policy as a perversion of Republican ideas, and high treason to Republican principles. One of his closing paragraphs is as follows: "The attempt to establish by force of martial law, a civil society that would accord with the superior government of peace has been and never will be a success. At present it is not a success at the South, and the teachings of 1776 illuminate the failure of the attempt later. There is latent in the reconstructed States, as elsewhere throughout the Union, much of that sentiment which finds expression in devotion to local freedom, a sentiment exaggerated into wrongful secession under the pleasant passion of the slavery controversy, but on which, in the absence of slavery, may be channeled back into the surest safeguard for the rights, freedom of all. It is maintaining the government upon a basis which grows from habits of free opinion, still preserving the forms through which it passed into political life and respecting the distributions of duty. It imposes the constitutionalism it has created—that security will be found equally in the strength of local society as ours. It is partly because this is assailed and sought to be supplanted by outward force alone, that no little advance has been made by the government in its consistent reconciliation. The same result would follow in other States, as any other question then engrossed it, and it is worthy of note, by Republicans as well as Democrats, that every party which has passed from power since the war, has, in the government, has the confidence of the people because of the attempt to unduly exalt the national above all local interests, and to strain the national power to ends for which it was never designed, by methods repulsive to the common thought and heart. There will only add another to the list, for it is a great mistake to suppose that Northern men do not recognize the local blunders, or that they sanction a continuance of the method of madness. To the behalf trade has been wiser than politics, and it is ever true that love is stronger than hate."

FOREIGN.

President Thiers' Message to the French Assembly.

Cordial Support Promised to the Pope in Case of Need.

France.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—President Thiers has demanded of the Holy See, at request of Bismark, the recall of Prince de Chimaibord, the Papal Nuncio in this city.

The appointment of Jules Ferry as Minister to the United States has been officially pro mulgated.

The *Pioneer* newspaper says that orders have been given for the immediate fitting out of vessels prepared for cruising about the coast of France. The *Figaro* represents that these naval precautions are taken to prevent what it calls "another return from Elba."

VERSAILLES, Dec. 7.—The message of Thiers was received in the Assembly to-day, and read. It announces that the British Government has been notified of the intention of France to abrogate the treaty of commerce at a stipulated time, but that France will not denounce the conventions for a rearrangement of her commercial relations with Great Britain. The Deputies are warned never to forget to be grateful for the wretchedness the Empire had led the country. France should now look for complete reorganization of the army and navy, as a guarantee of future dignified peace. Should war occur despite her determination to remain at peace, it should not be her deed. France would maintain the position to which she was entitled, not only for her own good, but in the interest of all nations. France sympathizes with the Pope in the maintenance of his spiritual independence, and will, in case of need, give Holy Father efficacious support. The cordiality is manifested toward Austria, for whose prosperity fervent hope is expressed. The relations of France with Russia, the message says, are those of reciprocal interest. Thier's despises the indebtedness of the country, but says it is due to the machinations of the Emperor Napoleon. The President advocates the establishment of a general compulsory military service in war times, and proposes the limitation of the annual contingent to 50,000 men in time of peace. The message concludes with an expression of confidence in the patriotism of the Assembly.

Great Britain.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—Republican meetings were held at Birmingham and Reading yesterday. The proceedings were disorderly at the Reading meeting, and it broke up in a row.

The steamers Weser and Egypt have arrived out.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—The Grand Jury have found true bills against Kelly for discharging a pistol at officers Grimes and Mullins at the time of his arrest.

Lieutenant General Scarfott died yesterday.

While Mr. Ogden was addressing a Republican meeting at Reading last night, a crowd rushed into the hall, and, after a desperate fight, the republicans were driven out, and Ogden obliged to save himself by flight.

The Prince of Wales is improving rapidly.

An imposing demonstration was made last evening at Birmingham in favor of a radical reform as the House of Lords, and the limitations of its power to defeat or suspend beneficial progressive legislation. The House of Common. Mr. Dalke addressed the meeting, and while speaking was frequently interrupted so great was the confusion that he was obliged to desist. Resolutions were adopted protesting against the principle of hereditary legislation, and demanding the withdrawal of legislative functions from the bench of bishops.

Spain.

MADRID, Dec. 7.—The municipal elections are over in Madrid. Of the members elected, all but the Radicals have elected seventy-five, the Republicans twenty. And the Ministerialists only twenty-five. The returns from the provinces, but those so far received indicate that the radical party have been every where successful.

Roumania.

BUCHAREST, Dec. 4.—The Roumanian Government has received a protest from Constantinople against the conclusion of the treaty with Russia, made two years ago, relative to Consular jurisdiction, on the ground that it is in violation of the treaty of Paris. The protest is ascribed to the influence of Prince Bismark, who, careless of Prince Charles, induces the Porte to assert his sovereignty as a part of the game with Russia.

Telegraphic Brevities.

The scarlet and black fever is working great havoc in Quebec. The disease has been prevalent for some time past, but has only now assumed a very aggravated form, and attacks young and old.

—Two churches, several houses, barns, and telegraph lines at Prince Edwards Island were destroyed by the late gale. The shipping also suffered considerably.

—A dispatch from Scranton, Pa., states that the miners' wages have been reduced eight cents per ton, and that steps are going on for a strike.

—Terrible suffering is existing among the poorer classes of Canton, in consequence of the early advent of the winter. Very little shipbuilding is going on, and work is so scarce that many workmen are leaving for the United States.

—A Bay City, Michigan, special says that Henry McDonald was accidentally shot in a saloon at Portsmouth, on Wednesday evening, by Sam Patterson. Patterson, whose age is 21 years, was playing with a revolver, and pointing it at McDonald, said "I may go as well shoot you," when the charge went off, the bullet striking the unfortunate man between the eyes and lodging in his brain. He cannot survive. Both came from Syracuse, N.Y., intending to work in a lumber camp. Patterson is nearly crazy with grief, and surrendered himself into custody.

—Intelligence from the West that left Omaha on Friday, December 1, left Lacombe Station yesterday morning, but had not arrived at Rawlins last night, although the track is now reported clear of obstructions.

—The report circulates that the first mate of the bark Tanner, had been frozen to death, turned out to be false. The propeller City of Fremont, arrived at Nashville on Wednesday, reports the bark Lottie Wolf, and schooner Tempest, Mc Henry, ashore on Smith Island. Had nothing of barque Sea Nymph, Smith, Tanner, and other vessels bound ashore. The City of Fremont experienced heavy weather, and was forced to seek shelter three times after leaving the Straits.

—Yesterday the platform of one of the New Orleans & Jackson railroad trains for the new bridge at Jolliet gave way and fell into the river, taking three laborers, named Wilson Carter, Michael Mesloche, and Owen Carroll with it. Corcoran was killed, McHugh had his right leg broken above the knee, and Carroll was injured.

—A despatch from Columbia, Texas, says Eugene Greenlow, in a fit of mental aberration a few days since, severely wounded his sister-in-law and her mother with a hatchet and then barricaded himself with a razor, and is dying from the effects of the former wound. He was the son of W. B. Greenlow, the well known capitalist, in Richmond, Va.

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRADE.

Second Day's Proceedings of the Convention in St. Louis.

Speech of Hon. John Young, of the Canadian Delegation.

Debate on the Question of Mississippi Levee Improvements.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 7.—The second day's session of the National Board of Trade began at the Temple this morning, President Fraley in the chair. The proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Cuyler, of St. Louis.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

The first order of business was the proposed amendment to the constitution, allowing a delegate for each additional three hundred members. The amendment was adopted.

ANNUAL MEETINGS.

To the proposition of the Executive Council, that annual meetings shall commence on the first Tuesday in December, J. H. Michener moved an amendment by substituting the third Tuesday in October. This amendment was adopted by a vote of 40 to 5.

BY-LAWS.

The substitute for the by-laws proposed by the Executive Council, providing for the payment of dues and assessments in advance, was adopted.

CANADIAN DELEGATION.

At this point Avery Fuller introduced the delegation from the Dominion Board of Trade, headed by the President, Hon. John Young. In welcoming the Canadian delegation, President Fraley received them most warmly, and after referring to the urgent need of a better commercial understanding between the two countries, he closed by expressing the hope and belief that the business connections cemented between the Dominion and the United States would political connections. The expression was received with marked pleasure.

Hon. Mr. Young said that his delegation was glad to meet the National Board and confer with them upon subjects of such vast importance to the commercial prosperity of Canada and the United States. He would state that the Dominion Board of Trade had no connection with the government or with any political party. He attached great weight to the advantage of free intercourse between the two countries, and cited as an example the disastrous experiences of the Canadian Provinces which, until a few years ago, had their ports closed by the most oppressive trade regulations, but since the abolishment of all these by the act of confederation, they had become a full three-fold greater in value and produce alike profitable and satisfactory to all. The same state of things should be brought about with as little delay as possible between the Dominion and the United States. (Applause.) No time for moving in this matter could be more favorable than the present. We were all of one family, all from the common stock of Mother England, who certainly had cause to feel proud of her first born, Jonathan, who was well as in her other boy, Jean Baptiste. (Laughter.) Canada was certainly progressive. All the great public works constructed thirty years ago by either government had proved altogether insufficient for the requirements of the times, and it had been found necessary to enlarge them from time to time. This would continue to be true in the future, and the products of the Dominion in the next thirty years would see as great an increase over the present as the present had increased over the past thirty years. In 1841 the population was 1,000,000 all told; in Ohio and sent it to Chicago for food, and now Chicago was one of the great grain and produce distributors of the world. From the reports on the upper lakes one hundred and twenty-two million bushels of produce had been shipped from the ports on the lakes to Buffalo, and he had no hesitation in saying that by the proper improvement of the mouth of Transportation there would be a saving of six cents per bushel, or seven days' time if there could be an unbroken water channel of twenty feet depth between the head of Lake Superior or Lake Michigan to the seaboard, thereby grain and produce might be transported without any breaking bulk. He should consider it a stronger and more enduring bond of peace and harmony than all the armies or military defences that could be established between Canada and the United States. (Continued applause.) The speaker said he should have communications to submit to the Board from time to time when they were regularly laid before the board.

NASHVILLE DELEGATION.

The Committee on Credentials reported the representation of the Nashville Board of Trade. Mr. Able, of St. Louis, stated that there was present at the city at the large delegation of Nashville business men, who were here for the purpose of attending the hospitalities of their city to the Board of Trade, and he moved that the delegation be invited to seats in the hall. The motion prevailed.

IRON STEAMERS.

Mr Sinnard, of St. Louis, obtained leave to introduce a subject to be considered in connection with propositions 11 and 12 of the propositions, and read a preamble and resolutions setting forth the claims of the producers of the West for cheap transportation of grain, with the hope that during the course of the Secretary of the Treasury in recommending the abolishment of the duties resting on the International Iron Steamship Building Company, and asking all of government in establishing a line of steamers between the West and Europe, where the building of iron steamboats for inland navigation shall be carried on. The Chair referred the subject and resolutions could properly come up for discussion in connection with subjects 11 and 12, and the matter was postponed until that time.

MISSISSIPPI LEVEES.

The board then took up the subject, continued from the last annual meeting, of recommending the General Government to loan its credit by guaranteeing the bonds of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas, to the total amount not exceeding twenty-five millions of dollars, to enable those States to repair the levees on the banks of the Mississippi River, and to reclaim the swamp lands, and to enable the cultivation of the sugar and cotton plantations.

Mr. Atkinson, of Boston, gave rise to an extended discussion, continuing for over two hours, and bringing out the views of nearly every prominent member of the board. Mr. Gaston, of St. Louis, was the first speaker. He opposed the proposition altogether, principally on the ground that the levees system was a failure, and that the best mode of accomplishing the reclamation of the lands.

Mr. Burwell, of New Orleans, spoke at some length in favor of the proposition, stating that he did not want the taxes confined to the lands benefitted by the levees, but advanced the assumption of the expense by the States at large.

Mr. Monroe, of Dubuque, was not certain as to whether the construction of levees was the best method. He referred to the plan of a hydraulic engineer who proposed to withhold the supply of water from the lakes, when the river was in its highest, and when it was low, and also to construct sluiceways or locks on the lower river, whereby the surplus water could be carried off through canals. He thought the matter was not now prepared to recommend any specific plan.

Mr. Updyke, of New York, advocated the proposition, and was in favor of having the tax a general one in the States concerned. The Southern States were in a condition of development arising out of the late war, and it would be proper and judicious for the government to lend its credit to aid them in reclaiming the millions of acres of valuable lands now rendered worthless by the overflow of the Mississippi. He would recommend this, but would not commit the board to any specific plan for the work itself.

Mr. Wetherell, of Philadelphia, said if this was a question of improving the navigation of the Mississippi then it was a national work, and was a proper subject for aid from the government; but if the design was merely to reclaim the lands along the river then it was an affair of the States interested, and was not entitled to the aid of the General Government. He was strongly of the opinion that the latter phase was the correct one.

Mr. Burwell moved as a substitute a resolution to the effect that it is proper for Congress to make a loan of the national credit for the purpose of aiding in reclaiming the public domain, and the restoration of the sugar and cotton lands subject to overflow, whenever Congress shall be convinced that such aid can be advantageously extended.

Mr. Atkinson, of Boston, was opposed to the proposition in any form, as it was a question of private interest, and not intended to benefit the navigation of the Mississippi.

Mr. Holton, of Milwaukie, said it was beneath the dignity of any State to petition for anybody's endorsement or for bonds with which to prosecute works designed to advance her own interests. The States interested in this matter should seek assistance from the National Government, but should proceed on their own credits in the carrying out of the work of reclaiming the lands.

Mr. Updyke moved to amend Mr. Burwell's substitute by including the preservation of navigation.

Mr. Taylor, of Cincinnati, spoke of extending the national credit in aid of the improvement and repair of levees. He did so on the ground that the navigation of the river was in no manner connected with the levee question.

Mr. Soudler, of Boston, opposed the proposition throughout. If the improvements were so valuable that capital enterprise should lend it aid.

Messrs. Cook, of Cincinnati, and Shryock, of St. Louis, both favored the substitute offered by Mr. Burwell.

Mr. Atkinson, of Boston, suggested that the best course would be to call the attention of Congress to the matter with the recommendation that suitable legislation be had to aid the States interested to proceed with the repairs and construction of levees, under the supervision of engineers appointed by the United States.

Messrs. Scully, of Newark, and Stannard advocated the adoption of the substitute.

Mr. Atkinson moved, as a substitute for the whole thing, a resolution to the effect that the National Board of Trade regard the improvement of the levees as of great importance.

Mr. Straughan, of New York, called attention to the fact that many of the levees were destroyed by the war of the rebellion, and thought that the government was under obligations to repair the damage.

Mr. Windsor, of Philadelphia, moved to strike out that portion referring to the loan of the national credit.

Mr. Rogers, of Boston, said that as a great war measure of relief, the banks of the Mississippi should be kept intact at the expense of the National Government; provided, however, that the levee systems were coded wholly to the General Government, and that local action to be imposed at the discretion of Congress; but this board should not endorse any proposition that the government give its credit in any form whatever for private purposes. He didn't like the shape of the proposition, and was opposed to it. Mr. Able, of St. Louis, thought it would be a fatal blunder if the board should refuse to petition the government to assist in reclaiming the valuable land now devastated by defective levees.

Mr. Atkinson moved as a substitute a resolution to the effect that the National Board of Trade regards the improvement of the levees of great importance, and should be encouraged by Congress whenever the States provide for such improvements under the supervision of the United States Government, and that whenever such improvement should be deemed to benefit the navigation of the Mississippi River it should be considered a proper subject for a national appropriation.

Mr. Reber moved to refer the whole subject to a committee of three, to report to-morrow morning.

Mr. Kirkland, of Baltimore, was opposed to any further delay.

Mr. Wright, of Chicago, spoke in favor of recommitting the matter in order that gentlemen might vote understandingly.

The motion to refer prevailed, and the Chair appointed Messrs. Reber, Wetherell, and Cook as the committee.

WITHDRAWAL.

The Committee on Credentials, to whom was referred the withdrawal of the Pittsburgh Board of Trade, reported recommending the request for withdrawal be granted upon payment of the assessment for 1871. The report was concurred in.

DIRECT REPORTATIONS.

Mr. Wetherell asked for the appointment of a committee of five to consider and report upon the subject of direct importation, and the Chair appointed Messrs. Wetherell, Cook, Burwell, Opdyke, and Kirkland. The board then adjourned till 10 o'clock Friday morning.

EXCURSION.

In the afternoon the delegates were treated to a pleasant excursion into the city, visiting Tower Grove Park, Shaw's Garden, and the vaults of the American Wine Company, in the evening a grand reception was held at the Southern Hotel.

UTAH.

Favorable Sentiments on the President's Message—Earthquake Shocks.

SALT LAKE, Dec. 7.—The President's message receives earnest commendation from all classes. Even the Church organs approve of portions, but has no reference to that upon Utah affairs. The Tribune says it is the ablest writing of the year. One suggestion from a high quarter is to make the time twenty-five years hence, that all polygamists now living may not be disturbed in the exercise of their faith.

There is much surprise at the removal of General Maxwell from the Land Office. The Gentiles universally regret it and the Mormons rejoice.

There was a severe shock of earthquake on the night of the 26th at Cedar City, Iron County. On the morning of the 4th, another shock occurred.

The Wharton Murder Trial at Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 7.—In the Wharton case to-day, Mrs. Clubb again took the stand, but nothing new was elicited.

The first witness was Mrs. Meta Hutters, a sister of Eugene Van Rese, who was lying sick at Mrs. Wharton's house when General Ketchum arrived. She testified to the shooting of Watson at Mrs. Wharton's on Saturday, June 24, and he appeared well. She saw him again on Sunday evening, when he was in bed. He said he had been quite sick, but felt better, and that Mrs. Wharton had poisoned him with a glass of lemonade.

Counsel for the defense objected to this declaration. It was a declaration made of the old gentleman's death, and not evidence. It was ruled out by the Court.

The witness also testified to Mrs. Wharton's sending her from the house, and to her object in preparing a dose of medicine for the General, of an unusual size, which she persisted in administering, even before the doctor arrived. The effect was to throw the General into convulsions. Watson, she did not believe, died of delirium tremens, when his clothes were pawned up, his real could not be found. This witness asked Mrs. Wharton if she had not said that Watson died, she replied it was in her wardrobe.

War Department Weather Prognostics.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—A rising barometer with clearing weather and fresh westerly winds is probably for Friday on Lake Superior and Michigan, and Northwest winds with rising barometer in the valley of the Mississippi. Southwest winds with partially cloudy weather, and pleasant weather will continue in the Southern States. The area of low barometer will move northeast west, with brisk winds for a short time on the lakes. Partially clear and brisk weather for the Middle and Eastern States. Cautionary signals continue for this evening at Oswego and Rochester, and are ordered first at Cleveland, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee.

MISCELLANEOUS CITY ITEMS.

Mr. Charles Hartsheen, of Cincinnati, while crossing the railroad track at Fourteenth street and Indiana avenue, at noon, yesterday, was knocked down by a passing train, and sustained such severe injuries that he died shortly after reaching St. Lukes hospital.

—The Corner held an inquest, at the County Hospital, yesterday, on the body of Peter Deane who was run over by a team of cars near the Stock Yards, on Thanksgiving Day, and died of his injuries on Wednesday. He was in the employ of the Michigan Railroad Company, and the jury rendered a verdict of accidental death.

—At the annual communication of Keystone Lodge No. 69 A. F. and A. M., held in Cregier's Hall, No. 286, Milwaukee avenue, on Wednesday evening the 6th inst., the following officers were elected as the officers of the lodge for the ensuing Masonic year: S. H. Dixon, W. M.; E. Bonagist, S. W.; Geo. G. Brainerd, J. W.; Alexanderson, Treasurer; Jno. B. Paine, Secretary; James Thomson, S. D.; Michael McAuley, J. D.; M. Frenchel, D. Dier.

—Stealing lumber and building material from the structures erecting in the burnt district has been indulged in to an extent that the police and the attention of the police authorities has been called to it. Several arrests have been made, and the thieves committed to the bridewell, others should cease their midnight fishing if they do not desire a residence in the Feather-bed.

—The annual meeting of the friends of the Chicago Orphan Asylum will be held at No. 70

LADIES' CHRISTIAN UNION.

Meeting of the Society Yesterday Afternoon--Reports of the Officers.

The Work Done Since the Fire—Destitute Women Supplied with Food and Clothing and Furnished Employment.

The Ladies' Christian Union held their annual meeting yesterday afternoon at the First Congregational Church, corner of Ann and Washington streets, Mrs. Dr. Patton in the chair, and Mrs. Dennison Graves acting as Secretary. Between thirty and forty ladies were present.

FINANCIAL.

Mrs. Harris, former Treasurer, presented a report of the financial condition of the society, covering a period from December 1, 1870, to September 1, 1871, which showed receipts of $1,329.64, the principal items being—collections, $675.85; sale of concert tickets, $300; receipts from strawberry lunches $262. The disbursements were the same amount, the principal items being—to Mrs. Peerless, for services rendered, $300 16; to Mrs. Miller, $450; to Mrs. Holmes, teacher of the industrial School, $320.

Mrs. Chester Warner, the present Treasurer, reported receipts of $1,262.55, and expenditures of $972.79; $1,200 of the receipts being given for special relief, and not subject to orders for general use.

The reports were accepted.

THE RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mrs. Dennison Graves, Recording Secretary, submitted the following report:

The organization known as the Chicago Ladies' Christian Union has just ended its second year, and, in order to more fully understand its work, we shall be obliged to review a little of its history from the beginning. This society was organized at first simply to furnish employment to needy women and girls, but as progress was made this was found to be insufficient to meet the wants of the various classes applying for aid. Much mission labor was demanded, which compelled a more thorough organization and a wider amount of facilities for doing good, and in prosecuting all these labors many visits among the poor were necessary where substantial aid was given. Food and clothing, sympathy and kindness, were all needed. The sick and suffering have also been cared for, and three have been buried by the society. The Jail and Bridewell have also been left out. Fagots and cradle have been beautifully supplied made by the Young Men's Christian Association. The *Heavenly Tidings* and *Everybody's Paper* have each added largely to every body who readiest wished to have them. It was also considered necessary to open an Industrial Mission School for girls. This, after mature deliberation, was done early in the year. During this school was in very successful operation, having enrolled upon its books the names of 300 girls, representing twenty-three nationalities, and under Miss Holmes, the faithful and efficient teacher of this school, seems to us that the work was so prospering in her hands that she had never been so encouraged to work and labor night and day. Soon after the beautiful conflagration. We were located on South Wells street, in a portion of this city which surely needed all the missionary work we could give. Since our organization, up to the time of the fire, from our bureau nearly employment was furnished to 5,000 women and girls; 874 were sent to homes in the country; and 98 to their own homes or to their friends, through arrangements made by the Associated Press Superintendents of railroads. Numbers of unfortunates have been cared for in our hospitals and at the Refuge, and several have been reclaimed from lives of sin. The Home for the Friendless has also been operated most kindly with us, and during the past year and up to the fire opened wide its hospitable doors and administered to our homeless ones. As our work progressed, still another need was felt; an Educational Department was needed. Many worthy young women were struggling to obtain a practical education, and application was made to the various schools and colleges in the different States, and from all most encouraging replies were received, both in regard to tuition and board. Nearly twenty young women have been assisted in procuring courses of education in the different institutions of learning in various parts of the State.

THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Miss Frances L. Smith, Corresponding Secretary, submitted the following report:

The following supplies are reported by Mrs. Knox: Money received of Mrs. Lothrop, of Boston, for special cases of suffering, $100; ladies of St. Louis, by Mrs. Dickinson, 2 boxes glass-ware, 1 bbl. lamps; of Y. M. C. A., Chicago, 1 bbl. potatoes, 1 bbl. apples, 2 bbls. potatoes; Hartford, Conn., W. C. A., 1 box clothing, Sent to their wives valued at $100; from Philadelphia, 4 boxes clothing; Rockford, 5 boxes clothing.

The Department of the Distribution of Supplies under the care of Mrs. Knox is responded to by the following figures: No. of families supplied with clothing, 97. No. of articles of clothing for the above families, 1,230. No. of lamps and pieces of crockery, 1,046. Bibles 9.

The following supplies were received and sent to the Women's and Children's Hospital, No. 359 West Adams street: 2 feather beds, 1 box jelly, 1 package tea, 1 package coffee, 1 box soap, 1 barrel sugar, 1 package dried fruit, 1 package linen, 1 pillow, 2 dozen nightgowns. Cash distributed for special cases, $125.

With gifts of from $6 to $10 and $20 out of our special fund, we have worked quietly but with an energy equal to the demands upon us. We acknowledge with pleasure the courtesies of the Young Men's Christian Association, and the co-operation of other societies of the city, and we speak with special gratitude of the generosity of the ladies of the W. C. A. of Washington, Philadelphia, Hartford, St. Louis, Rockford, and Aurora, and of gentlemen of the same cities, who have, either in person or by correspondence, contributed to the relief of suffering. The special cases of suffering. The grief opened with quiet hopefulness, even optimism, for our particular objects. It has closed with a consciousness of larger labors, deeper plans, and broader views of Christian work and Christian benevolence. We have done what we could. May the past be but a promise and a prophecy of what we shall do in the future. I can speak with freedom of these figures and gifts, but when I come to the description of the cases we have relieved, I would use only words to fully chosen words, and touch but lightly the suffering that has come to us. The most of those whom we have assisted are socially our sisters, those who had never before known a need or a want, and the sympathy of them that their names have been hidden from even our own distributor, while their needs were represented by ladies of our board, out of our acquaintance, and their thanks have been spoken to these ladies alone, and to God. Others have come to us with spirits grieved by the ungentle manner with which they had been met at other places of relief, and they have been soothed and comforted by the sympathizing Christian kindness shown them by our visitors in Chicago. One lady came in on Monday of fearfully cold day, dressed in garments fit only for October, and as she stood beside a well filled box that had just arrived from Rockford, and saw the carefully prepared garments, her tears fell fast and silently. I need not say that Mrs. Knox, with generous heart, supplied her every pressing necessity. One family we relieved that of a lady who had been the support of the entire care of an invalid husband and her six children. Her last dollar had been paid for the month's rent, and the papers requiring her to vacate her little home had already been placed in her hands. We went to her, gave her money for her rent, and comforts for her family. We have relieved the wife and family of one of our city policemen, and of some of our best musical artists, who had lost money, clothing, music, instruments, situation, and home. These are but some of those to whom sickness has come, and our visitors have come to them with kind words and with needful comforts for the sick room.

The employment office opened on the 16th of October, from that day to the 16th of November, Miss Miller, who was in charge of the office, sent to homes in the city 225 girls. From the 16th of November to the 30th, Mrs. Knox sent to their own homes 250; 67 were sent to the country; 23 to Good Samaritan Society of St. John's Church; 16 to Mr. Freer, to make underwear; and 13 to 14 to Home of the Friendless. Relief Society, by contract with Mr. O. C. Gibbs. Total, 674.

From the 16th of October to the 26th of November, the office was daily crowded with girls seeking situations of every character, from kitchen girls to sewing and bookkeeping. They were always received with pleasant words, and assistance rendered them, as far as possible. The orphan girls have been provided with homes.

REMARKS OF MRS. PATTON.

Mrs. Patton detailed at some length the work of the society, and its plans in prospect. She spoke especially of the financial necessities, stating that it was not a mere intelligence office, which he encouraged. Its persons done good and good help, and as a means of operating as a sewing women and preventing crime. A high compliment was paid to Miss Miller, in whose charge this department of labor had been, who has done most efficient service. The matter of a Reading Room was touched upon, and the fact being the summer, visited Boston, Philadelphia, and other Eastern cities, where especial attention was paid to this matter of Young Christian ladies. After the fire, the ladies of the union had worked for special relief, receiving material for distribution liberally from the Young Men's Christian Association, and the Relief Bureau. Their work in this direction was extensive, and did not appear in the reports of the Treasurer and Secretaries. The Industrial School was given for the present. There will be a session of this room on Jackson street, being very much diminished in numbers, they had, by consent of the management, opened the rooms for female labor. One of them was under the charge of Miss Dryer, and the other was under the charge of Miss Slater. Both were doing much good. It was desirable that both should be supported by the ladies as far as possible. Mrs. Slater was an accomplished dressmaker, and dresses could be made in this room at as low rates as by seamstresses at home. In regard to a permanent interest of the union in the home, that was a matter for future consideration. The canvass of kind treatment toward girls at that place were unfounded. A school where girls could be educated for domestic labor was most desirable. It would be an excellent thing if domestic labor could be accepted much more largely. One year this school was in very successful operation, having enrolled upon its books the names of 300 girls, representing twenty-three nationalities, and

WASHINGTON.

The Meeting of Congress---How It Compares with Previous Congresses.

Fresh Barbarities in Cuba---The Execution of the Students.

The Methodist Question in Politics --A Church-Hooker.

Mr. Trumbull Named for President--The Bible in the Schools.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.

It is impossible to resist the belief that the present year assembling is abler and purer in the aggregate, and informed in a higher degree and to a higher key, as to the needs of a large nation, than any Congress known here since 1860.

WORKING COMING TOGETHER.

Prior to 1861, a few nervous and gallant-spirited men sought to solve, anticipate, and allay the ever-present spectre of the time. And his leash-holder, which was all the corridors of the Capitol, were able to create certain episodes of the Mexican war, and to keep up appearance of national business out of attention of our coasts and commerce; and to indicate conscience that those Congresses of disaster was not higher than a level of compromise patriotism, and, therefore, that was done lacked the stamp of and harmonious national motion. Perhaps, the apparition could not be banished, and, for a far future, will award praise to the motives of men of the former era. But, where great subject in Congress forbidden to be looked upon, although never out of sight, perfect political cannot be expected. And it may of this Congress, that there is no fact which it will not dare to examine, that it has better-informed average ---just at this time, earnest men, too, and of looser party affiliation before in thirty years. Congress of men with large physical mechanics, travel, and negro. The grade of wealthy men is that is no misfortune; for a fair nation respectable and cheerful. from small daily All large classes are represented, also a progressive reform. If there are continued members in Congress and carpet-baggers and scallawags, it is better for both races. The meanness are out, however, such as and Stokes.

The Force has no place in this Congress is applied to individual ruffianism, offensive terrorism, and at no time are statesmen and leaders mingled in fact, the only feuds are between the same party.

THE CUBAN QUARREL.

In the matter of a filibuster, I have kept myself clear of any incitations of Cuban liberty. But the other day when I read of eight young men put to sea and shot dead with Spanish martial law, I felt the coldness in the blood, and the notion that as great a stain rests on the nation as if on an island almost immediately at hand were ravaged repeatedly by the most infamous nation, far distant from the United States, and poorly acquainted with the character of Americans. The Cubans and Great Britain could not have more than to talk a little and make a show. This time it is not a very great proposition sought to satisfy their covetousness of the weakness of Spain: it is a question, determined that Barbarity should not hide in the shadow of the flag of the Western States. In fact, when we come to think about it, most of these old guns in the navy yard at Washington destroying the effective and interesting department of the future of Spain in Cuba is of a corrupt Captain General, upon the timeworn plea of the Home Government, and the money in his pockets. In the true sense of the State we have a right, once in a while, to gratify our just indignation, to an unpower, it is well; it is not this to show that we keep it.

A DISTURBED QUESTION IN POLITICS.

Perhaps by the name of Newman, who, [illegible] and gallantry to 1860

The Chicago Tribune.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1871.

NO BEGGING AT WASHINGTON.

The County Commissioners, at their session on Tuesday, inadvertently, we suppose, passed a series of resolutions asking that Congress refund to the county the money expended for bounties and for the support of families of soldiers during the war. This is one of those short cuts to get money which too often receive more favor than they deserve. To any person who will ponder on the consequences of such a proposition, its absurdity will be evident. Cook County is but one municipality in some ten thousand which expended money for precisely the same purpose. The money was not expended for any public purpose; it was not expended on account of the war; but substantially to induce men to enlist as substitutes in place of those who ought to have gone to the front. There is not the slightest ground of claim, in law, justice, or equity, upon the government, for any portion of the money so expended.

But, looked at financially, and as a measure of relief, the proposition is still more preposterous. Cook County is not a pauper. It is still a rich community; it has sustained a severe loss; but not by any means a total one. We are not reduced to beggary; there is no danger of our being unable to pay our public debt, and the interest on it, at maturity. The County Commissioners have it in their power, by abolishing useless offices, and reforming the manner of expenditures, to accomplish a reduction of useless outlay annually equal to the whole interest on the county debt. We have two hundred millions of taxable property in the county, and we can pay our debts and the interest thereon without any increase of taxation. The money which the Commissioners can save us by their reforms exceeds the revenue which would have been received from the property destroyed. We contracted this debt to avoid personal service in the army. Instead of enlisting, or going when drafted in the third and fourth years of the war, we hired other men to go in our places. With the money thus borrowed we purchased exemption from military service. If Cook County stood alone in this kind of business, we would, perhaps, be ashamed to acknowledge that we contracted such a debt; but there are thousands of other communities which purchased exemption through the same means, some of them paying a much higher rate than we did. Many of these communities are much poorer than we are; that is, they have less taxable property and more debt than we have in proportion to population. We cannot ask to be an exception from the general rule in such cases. If the government should undertake to refund all the money thus advanced by all the cities, counties, towns, villages, and wards of the United States, it would require the creation of an additional national debt, amounting, probably, to several hundred millions of dollars. The share of the interest on this debt, to be paid annually by the people of Cook County, would probably exceed the interest on the county's present war debt. Instead, therefore, of getting rid of the debt, we should merely be converting it into another form. Under these circumstances it would be the worst kind of economy for this county to ask Congress to do anything of the kind suggested by the resolution of the Commissioners. Let us hope that the hasty action of the resolution will be reconsidered, and that no request of the kind will ever be made by any official body in this county.

COUNTY PAUPERS, OFFICIAL AND OTHERWISE.

We learn that the lobbies of the Board of Cook County Commissioners were infested with a horde of petty office-seekers, ravening after the spoils of the Poor House, County Agency, and other public establishments. Among these, the present incumbents—Pushek, Carroll, and company—are in full force, and their ranks are swelled by members of the defunct Board of Supervisors, and others too numerous and not sufficiently respectable to mention.

We trust that the board will not yield to the clamor or the pressure which any of these fellows may be able to raise in their own behalf, or elect to office any of the present incumbents, or any of those who have abetted them in the old Board of Supervisors. They have, as a rule, proved disgracefully incompetent, and, in some instances, in cases, criminally corrupt. The principal of them, one Pushek, the County agent, who has acquired the sobriquet of Potato Pushek—not, perhaps, because he served the county any worse in his potato contracts than in others, but probably because the name has a more musical and alliterative sound than any other,—and Pat Carroll, who comes out very sleek and fat from his administration as Warden of the Poor House and Insane Hospital. Carroll is a man of no administrative ability or energy, his talents lying solely in the direction of entertaining the Poor House Committee with good dinners as often as they visit his institution. For these dinners Carroll has become famous, inasmuch that he is visited often, not only by the actual Poor House Committee, but by a score or two of bummers of low degree, who elect themselves honorary members of the committee, and "investigate" the management of the Poor House with astonishing frequency and regularity.

This order of things must be reformed altogether. The newly-installed Commissioners enjoy, on taking their seats, the hearty good opinion of the community; and they could not do any act which would go so far to forfeit that good opinion as the re-election of any of these barnacles would do. And the old hangers-on of the defunct Board of Supervisors are to be reckoned in the same category. If any of these shall be reduced, by the cutting off of their official perquisites, to a condition of penury, from which they have not the ability to extricate themselves by honest labor, the doors of the Poor House should never be closed against them. But on no account should any of the lot be set to manage the affairs, or the county's other institutions, either in a principal or subordinate capacity.

Mr. Sumner has introduced a bill in the Senate for the restoration of specie payments by the process of substituting compound interest notes for the present greenbacks, at the rate of $10,000,000 per month, commencing on the 1st of July next, the rate of interest to be 5 per cent, and the notes themselves to be convertible, principal and interest, into 5 per cent bonds at the expiration of two years. The process of substituting the new notes for the old ones would be by paying out the former in place of the latter for the current expenses of the government, and thereupon cancelling the greenbacks to the same amount as the new notes issued. The compound interest notes would be legal tender to the amount of their face value.

The principles of this bill have been frequently explained in these columns. The plan is the only one now on the files of Congress for restoring specie payments by any kind of process. It is the only one having any respectable advocacy which will certainly accomplish the object sought, and, as we think, without any hardship or suffering to the business community. The bugbear of contraction has nearly ceased to haunt the imaginations of men, and the anticipated difficulty of settling contracts made a few years ago, with gold at 140, has become a mere laughing-stock since gold has fallen to 109, of its own gravity, without any interferences by government.

Mr. Sumner is right in saying that this measure would be of itself a complete and full restoration of the government credit, and that, with specie payments restored, the public debt would refund itself at a lower rate of interest, without the excessive straining which we have lately witnessed. We fear, however, that Mr. Sumner's bill will meet with little favor at the hands of the Senate Finance Committee, as at present constituted.

THE FREE ZONE.

The President, in his message, refers to the controversy with Mexico concerning her tariff laws, and expresses the hope that that republic will voluntarily repeal the law which operates so disastrously to American commerce on the Rio Grande. The case is not without its troubles, and the President wisely abstains from recommending the extreme measures which have been urged upon him. For many years previous to 1858, the tariff of the United States was very moderate, especially upon those goods which are most needed in the frontier districts. The tariff in force in Mexico was very high and high duties were imposed upon many articles which were admitted into the United States free of duty. The result was that commerce deserted the Mexican side of the river and flourished in Brownsville and the other American cities. The Mexicans, who obtained their goods from the river towns, crossed the river and bought all they needed from the American merchants, who, owing to the low tariff on their side, could sell from 30 to 50 per cent lower than the Mexicans. The Mexicans ceased to import, getting their stocks on the American side, and smuggling them into Mexico. The consequence was that the Mexican Government collected little or no revenue on the Rio Grande. In response to the appeals of the Mexican towns thus deprived of their trade, and making a virtue of necessity, the Mexican Congress, in 1858, established a "free zone," or district extending, say, fifty or one hundred miles back from the Rio Grande, into which it was declared foreign goods might be imported free of duty. This placed the Mexicans and the Mexican towns on an equality with the Americans. The war followed, and after it the present high tariff. At the close of the war the condition of affairs was directly the reverse of what it had been ten years before. On the Mexican side of the river there was no tariff; on the American side the duty was from 40 to 100 per cent. The Mexican could import foreign goods free of duty, while the American could not. Trade immediately recrossed the river. Merchants in Brownsville packed their goods and moved over into Matamoras. The whole country traded with the Mexicans. The people of Texas, who obtained their supplies from the river towns, traded with the Mexican merchants, and, precisely as American goods were once smuggled across the river into Mexico, so now they are smuggled from Mexico into Texas; and as Mexico could collect no revenue from her ports on the Rio Grande, so now the United States do not receive enough to pay the salaries of the officers.

The owners of empty stores and unoccupied buildings in Brownsville demand that the United States shall compel Mexico to abolish the free zone, and establish a tariff as high as ours. The Texan remedy is to take forcible possession of the whole territory embraced in the free zone, thus settling the question by conquest. The demand for the abolishment of this free zone is resented in Mexico by the whole nation. They present the case strongly when they show that the United States, for many years previous to 1858, had a tariff imposing nominal duties, while Mexico had a high tariff; that what the United States now experience, in an inability to collect revenue, is no more than what Mexico endured for many years, and that the establishment of the free zone was forced upon Mexico by the policy of the United States. The change in the relative position of the two countries is not the result of Mexican legislation, but is entirely due to the voluntary change in her trade policy made by the United States. It is difficult to answer this argument. Certainly, the condition of affairs does not call for any invasion of Mexico, or any conquest of her territory. It is no part of the duty of Mexico to enforce the collection of our revenue.

CATACAZY'S NEWSPAPER EXPLOITS.

A portion of the much-talked-about Catacazy correspondence has, through the blunder of that illustrious diplomat, Cameron, reached the public eye. It has been understood for some time that Catacazy's offence, for which the United States Government has asked of the Emperor of Russia his immediate recall, consisted in meddlesome interference with affairs not his own or his nation's, and in a too free communication with the public press to suit the dignity of his office. One illustration of this affinity of Catacazy for printers' ink leaked out before the great Pennsylvania diplomat discovered that the correspondence entrusted to him was not yet ripe for public perusal, and was transmitted to THE TRIBUNE readers by our special Washington correspondent. This consisted of certain letters to the New York *World*, either written or inspired by Catacazy, published early last spring, and intended to stir up a feeling hostile to an adjustment of the questions then pending between the American Government and Great Britain. The zealous and eccentric Ambassador of the Czar evidently felt it his duty to serve his government by keeping the United States at swords' points with England, and thus weakening the moral support of the latter power, and rendering, at the same time, a close alliance with Russia more desirable to the United States. This was a manifestation of affection, not perhaps without a precedent either in social life or in diplomacy; but, if it has any proper place in diplomacy, it was for Prince Gortschakoff, at St. Petersburg, and not for M. de Catacazy, who was sharing, at Washington, the hospitality of the government which he sought to embroil. And then the daily scribbling to the journals! Putting all his exploits together, it is obvious that M. de Catacazy's career at Washington has been very scaly, and the only wonder is that he has been tolerated so long at Washington.

As it is, the determination of the Russian Government to send the Czar's son over to us without changing beforehand the officer who was to act as his usher in America, seems to have dampened somewhat the enthusiasm of the authorities at Washington, whose reception was very formal and brief. All the "gushing" that has been done over Alexis has proceeded from social sources, mostly in New York city. That the government and the country at large have not made more fuss over the young Grand Duke (who is, by all accounts, a very fine fellow) may be charged up to Catacazy, and that official may now no longer stay upon the order of his going, but go at once back to St. Petersburg—disgusted, as he doubtless will be, at the bad faith of the American newspaper correspondents, who take his gossipy contributions and refuse to help him in any way the responsibility of them.

The appointment of Mr. Burchard, of Illinois, as a member of the Committee of Ways and Means, is a deserved compliment to the studious and persevering habits, the careful training and unblemished character of the Representative of the Third District of Illinois. Although in his second term, he has achieved a notable distinction, which the Speaker has properly recognized in giving him so important a position in the councils of the party and the nation.

The New York *Tribune* acknowledges defeat in the new Committee of Ways and Means. It says that "the committee is no longer Protectionist, as we think it ought to be." It admits, however, that the committee fairly represents the House.

The *Tribune's* Washington correspondent, describing the appearance of the House when the committees were summoned, says:

> The Ways and Means Committee excited the most remark. Judge Kelley said that a majority of the members were for Free Trade. So thought Mr. Dickey of Pennsylvania, who went up to the clerk's desk and put on the name stone at the foot of the chair, and said: "Hinton, you have given us a Free-Trade Committee. I intend to offer a Free-Trade Resolution." The speaker replied: "and if I know my men, I have done so." The Protectionists look to the Ways and Means Chairmanship," said a Western Free-Trader, "but we have a majority on the committee." The committee is believed to stand as follows on the tariff question: Kelley and Maynard are High Tariff men—"90 per cent men," they are sometimes called. Dawes and Roberts are Moderate Protectionists; Brooks and Phelps, Jr., are Free-Traders; Burchard and Kerr are Moderate Revenue Tariff men, and Beck is for Free Trade generally, but for Protection for certain duties as Kentucky produces. All shades of opinions on the tariff are pretty fairly represented on the committee, and in almost the proportionate strength they have in the House.

SOUTHERN SCHOOL BOOKS.

At last the South is happy, and proclaims her independence of Northern text-books for use in schools and colleges. A number of discontented gentlemen have been for some time engaged in the preparation of a series of school books which should be free from the blemish of Northern imprints, and from that sectionalism which was in danger of inspiring the Southern youth with radicalism and other Northern peculiarities, which are regarded in Dixie with mortal aversion. The "University Series" is the name under which these books are to be known hereafter. They are issued by a stock company, and among the stockholders are Jefferson Davis, Generals Johnston, Beauregard, Ewell, Hood, Buckner, Hays, Taylor, Gilmer, Lee (eldest son of Robert E. Lee), James A. Seddon, late Confederate Secretary of War, and many prominent bankers, railroad men, planters, and others who have, it is to be presumed, made education and educational works a subject of profound study for many years. Professor Holmes has issued the Readers and History of the United States, and, in the latter, the Mobile *Register* informs us, has avoided "the provincial narrowness which characterizes New England historians," and "has done full justice to his own side in treating of certain matters necessarily involving sectional questions." Commodore Maury furnishes the geographical series, beginning with "First Lessons" and ending with "Physical Geography." Prof. Venable's arithmetic and algebra are pronounced orthodox, not a sum in addition or the most abstruse equation containing any of the Northern virus. Rev. Mr. Carter is represented by a General History, but "unfortunately the work has some serious blemishes," which is unfortunate for the reverend gentleman, and throws doubt upon the critical judgment of the educational stockholders. The Mobile *Register*, from which we derive our information, glowing as the prospect seems, is not altogether happy over the situation, as may be inferred from the following frank acknowledgment:

> Upon the whole, we are satisfied that nothing at all comparable to this series of books—taking them altogether—has ever been offered for the use of Southern schools and Southern households. If they are not universally adopted, it will not be from any literary, or artistic, or mechanical inferiority, but simply on account of the inveterate prejudice consciously or unconsciously prevailing in our schools in behalf of the modes of thought, modes of speech, and other peculiarities of New England.

To the inveterate prejudice for New England modes of thought, speech, and other peculiarities, the *Register* might have added the inveterate partiality or universal necessity for New England teachers, as the large majority of the educators in the schools of the South are from New England; and Virginia, at least, has modelled her schools upon the graded school system of Boston. We are not inclined, however, to find fault with the South for adopting a course of instruction for schools and colleges, and urging its importance through the public press. We rejoice to see the South moving in the matter of general education, even through the medium of distinctively Southern textbooks; for general education, freely and intelligently disseminated, will, in due course of time, perhaps in another generation, show the students that the North was right and the South was wrong, and that a free government cannot exist if it gives any person the right to own human labor or deprives a laborer of his fair wages.

THE PARK FAMILY MURDER.

Our readers are already familiar with the recent terrible murder of the Park family in Clark County, Indiana; the arrest of three negroes for the offence, and their execution by a masked mob, who took them from the jail where they were confined, stating that even the people of Indiana have begun to suspect that the three negroes were innocent, and that the murder, in reality, was committed by white persons. The Indianapolis *Journal* of the 6th contains some astounding developments, which go to show that the innocent have suffered, and that the guilty ones are still at large. The grounds upon which these facts are asserted are substantially as follows: First, that Mr. Park had some bitter enemies, and that some time previous to the murder he had received threatening letters. This fact was testified to by a Mr. Kirk, and, on the same day, an attempt was made to murder Mr. Kirk by two white men. Second, that the negro Johnson, from whom a confession was extorted by torture, invariably denied the crime when among his friends. Third, that no definite testimony was given as to the identity of the coat and pocket-book found at the house of Taylor, another of the negroes, and that, as the alleged object of the murder was plunder, they would have been more likely to have taken more valuable clothing and a pocket-book containing money, which were in plain sight. Two searches were made in Taylor's house. The first revealed nothing, and the second resulted in finding these two articles in a trunk which had been thoroughly examined during the first search. Fourth, public rumor asserted that the tracks of "three big negroes" were found about the residence and in an adjoining patch, while, since the mob violence, it has been ascertained that there were only the tracks of two persons, one of whom had very small feet, and these tracks have been proved to be identical with the tracks found about Mr. Kirk's house. Fifth, the testimony before the grand jury is shown to have been contradictory and much of it false. Sixth, that Mr. Park was a true friend and benefactor to the negroes in a region where public feeling was entirely against them, and had been a special friend of Squire Taylor, who is alleged to have been the most active participant in the murder. Seventh, that the barbarous execution was by no means an impromptu affair, but was deliberately planned and definitely appointed long before it was decided that the grand jury would not indict the accused, and that three of the grand jury, before the close of the court in which they were sitting, were members of the mob. Of these three, each has killed a man before and never been legally dealt with. Eighth, it is now ascertained that the little grandson of Taylor was induced, by offers of money and threats of death, to give in false evidence, corroborating the confession of Johnson; that his piece was prepared for him, and all he had to do was to commit it and repeat it, in which latter performance he signally failed. Ninth, that one of the mob, who had more to do with the detection and execution of the negroes than any one else, now says, to clear his conscience, that the negroes had nothing whatever to do with the affair. And lastly, that the reports concerning the bad character of the negroes are utterly unfounded, and that, in the case of one of them, a clear *alibi* can be proven.

The evidence furnished by the *Journal* seems utterly incontrovertible, and almost unanistakably points to the commission of a triple murder even more terrible than that of the Park family, at the hands of a cowardly, lawless mob. It is the most disgraceful episode in the history of Indiana, and calls for the condign punishment of every one connected with it. The *Journal* is warranted in saying: "We again warn the paralyzed and cowardly ministers of the law in Clark County that, if they do not bestir themselves to punish these crimes, a power, strong and intelligent enough to accomplish what it undertakes, will assume the performance of the neglected task." It is difficult to see, if the Ku-Klux of South Carolina are to be suppressed by the strong arm of the government for setting laws at defiance, why the Ku-Klux of Indiana should not be suppressed for the same act. Until something is done, a reproach must always rest upon Indiana law and justice.

The Grand Duke Alexis will be in Chicago on the 20th instant, provided the indefatigable Vasiliadeus Catacazy can be persuaded to tear himself away from the overpressing hospitality of the one hundred select New Yorkers, and brave the countless droves of buffalo which are supposed in Imperial Russian circles to rage between Chicago and New York. Meantime, our new Mayor is understood to be brushing up his Russian, in order to turn off a neat reception speech in the Muscovite's own vernacular. As an aid to this exercise, we clip for His Honor, from a Boston paper, the following specimen of Court Russian, said to have been transmitted by the illustrious scion of the Romanoffs to the Mayor of Boston, in response to a pressing invitation from that official:

> *Eyi vikshi bezhak yuliva durnai lagar' butti lelin ilt bloshi kifar Boston. Gilgar rumanwiski anlatar cutti bomera redi, anlam alentawy wibi dorwenya lplas neglang ough inlink edele.*

This is, we suppose, the regular official formula for all like occasions; though we feel sure that Alexis will do something special and distinguished for Chicago. At all events, it is doubtful whether, under the new order of things in this city, the "rumanwiski" will be forthcoming.

THE NORTHWEST.

ILLINOIS.

A collection of 1,500 beetles is for sale in Bloomington. The collection was made by Dr. Benjamin Norris, of Pike County, from various parts of this county and Europe. The bugs are scientifically named and classified.

—A magnificent golden eagle, measuring seven and a half feet across the wings, was captured near Carrollton last week. He was shot and crippled in one wing. On being brought to the ground, a dog attacked him, but the king of birds on March-ed and whipped him.

—The Jacksonville *Journal* gives the following: "A gentleman who was visiting at the farm-house of Mr. Thomas Patterson, two miles north of Alexander, informs us that a strange occurrence had taken place at the farm not long since. A breeding mare gave birth to twin colts, one a horse and the other a mule. The colts are lively and strong, and seem fond of each other."

—On Saturday week, Ell Brown and David Smith killed two deer in White Oak Grove, McLean County. These are the first deer seen in that section for some years.

—Mrs. Julia Newman, a school-teacher of Collinsville, was drowned at St. Louis on the 1st inst while attempting to get in a ferry-boat.

—A new paper, called the *Signal*, has been started at Woodhouse, Jersey County, by Charles H. Johnson.

—Macoupin County had 60,400 acres of wheat, 97,400 acres of corn, and 36,029 acres of other field products in cultivation in 1871.

—Peoria is infested with three-card monte.

—Mrs. Sarah Marshall, wife of ex-Mayor Wilson, Cairo, died on the 3d inst.

—Mr. E. H. Seward has a dairy of thirty-five cows in Marengo County, which have brought him in an average of $75 apiece the past year. During the year he fed them $17 worth of feed per head, besides what he raised himself. His cows yielded 400 pounds of milk per day, which he sells at one cent per pound. One pound of butter is made from twenty pounds of milk, which is much more profitable than making it into cheese.

—Rubini, the conjuror, is getting into trouble everywhere. At Quincy, he gave the winner of a prize-horse a sight-draft on a livery-stable in that city. The draft, however, was not honored, as Rubini had no horses on deposit. In the mean time, the conjuror had gone. He next turned up at Peoria. The latter city he left drew a horse, got drunk on the strength of it, treated all his friends, spent all his money, and lost his situation. The next morning he applied at the stable for his horse, but found none there, and Rubini gone. The waiter and some of his friends have now gone for Rubini, and will probably be able to give up the horse when they find him. People will do well to give all these gift-distributing conjurors a wide berth.

—The Elgin Universalists contemplate raising and enlarging their church edifice to accommodate their necessities.

—A fire in Fulton on Thanksgiving Day burned Fisher & Hoyt's cigar store, John Dyer's shoe store, Gay & Lyon's grocery, and C. N. Wheeler's hardware store.

—A man named James H. Morris was found dead in his bed at Decatur, one morning last week, with his arm around his little son, with whom he slept. The Coroner's jury returned a verdict of death from heart disease.

—The new High School Building at Delevan, recently erected at a cost of $35,000, was destroyed by fire on the 4th inst.

—George Starr, a well-known farmer living near Woodstock, died from an apoplectic stroke, on the 3d inst., while drawing water from his well. The wife of Mr. Alexander Martin, another farmer living near Woodstock, was killed on the 2d inst., by a fall from a wagon.

—Some thieves lately drove their wagon up to the store of H. E. Woods, at Garden Prairie, and helped themselves to about $200 worth of goods.

—Livingston County sends more insane people to Jacksonville than any other county in the State, according to ratio.

—The Rev. Mr. Morrison, of Iowa, has been transferred to the Alton District, and appointed to the pastorate of the M. E. Church, in Alton, made vacant by the appointment of the Rev. J. W. Lane, as Presiding Elder of the district.

—The question of the location of the State Fair will come before the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, at their meeting in Springfield, commencing January 9, 1872.

—Dunnoin has prohibited gambling, by a late ordinance.

The Rushville *Times* reports that D. E. Woods, a stock-dealer of Sharp's Landing, recently left for St. Louis with a lot of stock, for which he owes the citizens, and has not since returned.

—There are twelve colleges in this State, with 2,230 students in attendance.

—Monmouth College has lately acquired an addition to its Cabinet in the shape of a collection of Chinese curiosities, presented by the Rev. J. C. Owen, missionary to the United Presbyterian Church at Canton, China.

IOWA.

A man in Washington sold Nartino, the illusionist, a cow for $25, and then went to the show and drew the cow back again.

—A man in the employ of the Northwestern Railroad Company met with a singular accident at Boone, a few days ago. Whilst springing from a car to the ground, a heavy gold ring, worn upon the small finger, caught on a nail-head, and in an instant was separated from the hand by taking the finger with it.

—Marshalltown has thirteen religious organizations.

—The Mississippi River at Keokuk is at present down below the lowest recorded mark.

—A suit is now pending before the Circuit Court at Ottawa involving the sum of sixty-one cents.

—Mrs. Mary M. Harris, wife of Mr. Harris, who was killed last winter by the falling of an embankment on the Dubuque & St. Paul Railroad, has brought suit for damages, laying the damages at $5,000. Too trial will probably take place during the next term of the District Court.

WISCONSIN.

George M. West, late of the Brandon *Times*, has bought an interest in the Ripon *Free Press*. The editor introduces him by saying: "Like ourself, he has no religion to speak of."

—Lumber has advanced one dollar per thousand in the St. Croix trade.

—The Wood County *Reporter* says: "Robert Blow last week had eighteen sheep killed by a *valuable* dog. Twelve were killed outright, and six were so mangled as to save their lives."

—The Jackson County *Banner* says: "Fits, hog cholera, or some other pork disease, is prevailing among the hog family in this region. We have heard of several hogs dying in the county within the past ten days in a singular manner. They appear to be attacked with fits or spasms, and generally die within a few hours."

INDIANA.

Considerable excitement has been occasioned in the township of French Lick by a case of supposed poisoning. The poisoning occurred in the family of Mr. Charles Lewis. During his absence, Mrs. Lewis prepared a bowl of milk for the four children, and, ordering that they should drink it at a certain hour, left home, and had not returned at last accounts. The children drank the milk, and were immediately seized with spasms and other manifestations of poison. All of them recovered with medical aid.

—An Irishman named Thomas Kelley was burned to death on the 29th ult., about two miles north of Bridgton, Parke County. It seems he was holding some kind of a Jollification, and was full of liquor, when his shanty burned down, and, not being able to get out, he was destroyed with it.

—A lady in Perrysville, Vermilion County, the other night, threw a brickbat through the window of a billiard hall at her husband, who was on the inside playing a game of billiards.

—On Friday morning last, Lucy Singleton, an inmate of the Jefferson County Poor Asylum, was terribly burned by falling into the fire. Her recovery is doubtful.

MICHIGAN.

Miss Iola Gilmore, a young lady living at Augusta, was burned to death on the 29th ult., by the explosion of a gasoline lamp.

—A petrified body has been found in the Kalamazoo cemetery.

—A standing bonnie the school house store, at Clayton, on the 26th ult., a little girl named Reams ignited her clothing, and from the burns received died on the 29d.

—The Congregational Church at Dryden was burned on Thanksgiving Day, during the services.

—A little daughter of Mr. Clary, of Escanaba, attempted to light a fire, November 20, by the aid of kerosene, when the usual consequence followed. She died after a few hours of agony, and her mother and two others, in their efforts to save her, were seriously burned.

—It is estimated that over 600,000 barrels of apples have been freighted over the Michigan Central Railroad these fair this season.

—The venerable Dr. Charles Stuart died on Sunday last in Kalamazoo, at the residence of his son-in-law, ex-Senator Stuart. He was 80 years of age, and has lived in Kalamazoo since 1838.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Jury Fees of the Circuit and Superior Courts.

Reconsideration of Mr. Ashton's War Debt Resolution.

Interesting Discussion about the Lost Records.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Board of County Commissioners met yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock, in the County Treasurer's office, President Whitegin in the chair. There were also present the following Commissioners: Ashton, Harris, Harrison, Hertling, Hitchcock, Jones, Pahlman, Roelle, Skelly, Scearis, Talcott, Lonergan, and Crawford.

THE BILLS OF EMMANUEL ROCKEY.

Commissioner Talcott moved to reconsider the vote authorizing the payment of the bills of Emmanuel Rockey. Carried.

The bills were then referred to the Committee on Miscellaneous Claims.

RELIEVING THE CITY OF THE NORMAL SCHOOL.

A communication from the Board of Education with a resolution, asking that the Commissioners relieve the city of the Cook County Normal School (published in THE TRIBUNE) was received and read.

It was referred to the Committee on Education.

INSURANCE ON THE EAST WING.

A communication from the County Clerk with regard to the insurance on the east half of the old Court House, was received. It set forth that the insurance was as follows:

Mutual Security	$5,000
Lenox	5,000
Merchants	5,000
Germania	5,000
Total	$20,000

Proofs of loss had been prepared and were now in the hands of the Clerk, awaiting the action of the board as regards the securing of the insurance.

Referred to the Finance Committee.

JURY FEES OF THE CIRCUIT AND SUPERIOR COURTS.

A communication was received from the County Treasurer, submitting the amount of jury fees paid out, as follows:

Jury certificates of the Superior Court	$ 2,641.50
Jury certificates of the Circuit Court	13,307.50
Total	$15,949.00

Commissioner Talcott inquired how the Criminal Court jurors were paid.

The Chair said the city paid them.

It was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

TRANSPORTATION OF AN INVALID.

A communication was received from Isaac Spear, stating that one J. L. Gallaher, injured at Manteno, had been taken to the County Hospital, and that though amputation was necessary he wished to go to friends in Philadelphia.

Referred to the Committee on Poor House and paupers.

COUNTY ACCOMMODATIONS.

Commissioner Hitchcock presented a communication from the Board of Public Works, expressing a regret that arrangements had not been made with the county for rooms in the reservoir lot, and that to build an additional story during the present year would be inexpedient. The board therefore offered the county such unoccupied rooms as were at their disposal.

The communication was ordered on file.

DUPLICATE BONDS.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the communication from the Widows' and Orphans' Association, requesting duplicates of their bonds Nos. 163 and 367 of $500, reported favorably to the prayer of the petitioners.

The report was adopted.

THE NEW QUARTERS.

Commissioner Talcott, from the Committee on Public Buildings, reported verbally that they had conferred with the Board of Public Works, and that rooms would be ready for use by January 1.

THE WAR-DEBT RESOLUTION RECONSIDERED.

Commissioner Harrison moved a reconsideration of the vote memorializing Congress for the remission of the war debt. He was opposed to the passage, by an immediate vote, of resolutions of such magnitude and importance. He thought it was not the business required.

Commissioner Hitchcock thought it desirable to reconsider the vote. He thought the Committee on Finance would be competent to frame a bill. He did not think Congress should be asked to make a precedent by which any city could look to the Government upon the General Government any debt that might have been incurred in the war. He thought, gentlemen, Cook County could pay her own debt. But, without passing any judgment upon it, he would like the action of the board to be reconsidered, and that it should be referred to the Finance Committee.

Commissioner Ashton could not see what advantage the reconsideration would be, however, and the reference to a committee would be. He had no doubt that the county would willingly have enabled to pay its own debt. They were not placing themselves in the position of mendicants asking favors from the Legislature or the General Government to give back to them what they had given the General Government. It was a question in which the county could, at present, pay its own debt. No one in the history of the world had ever such a precedent before them. There was no delay; no occasion for such red tape as the Relief Committee was inflicting on the people.

Commissioner Harrison moved to amend, by adding to their offers the price they would charge for copies. There were lawyers in this town who would for a vast amount of fraud and land-grabbing in the matter of titles. There were some who thought it necessary to be settled by a long process, with short limitations, would be fraught with more danger to minors or absentees, than by allowing Tom, Dick and Harry Smithsonian himself with the indices of the records. His idea was that if anything were bought, it should be copies of the records and indices, with an act of the Legislature making them the original records. He went further than Commissioner White. He thought if the board ordered it to take the matter in hand, and purchase copies, sworn to, certified to, examined and compared, such a act only was required by the people. There were Tammanys in every State and county. To give a few men the power of changing the titles to property to the extent of millions of dollars, and he could not answer for them. If the board of Supervisors would give copies at fair prices, the board to determine them, he was familiar with them. But if they came with propositions of 6 per cent of their value, he protested. He would rather leave their property just where it stood.

Commissioner Ashton thought the action of the member from Cook county indicated that it was either a stupendous joke or a great steal. He thought if the gentlemen of the title were necessary. The gentlemen had preserved their own records, and establishments. All the county could do was to offer them reasonable compensation for certified copies; or to set to work a corps of experienced copyists to copy the whole three sets; have them compared and sworn to, and deposited with the Recorder, or, if they have a small law passed making them *prima facie* evidence; and have it certified by the Clerk. They would then be just exactly where they were previous to the fire. It would cost the county more than $100,000, and it was a piece of folly and extravagance to talk about giving the abstract men 6 per cent of the average of their past three years' profits, or $600,000. It might cost $75,000, but $60,000 would be equitable, and cheerfully. The records, by this process, would be just what they were before the fire.

Commissioner White handed the Clerk his motion, reduced to writing, as follows:

> *Resolved*, That the owners of abstracts and other evidences of title be invited to exhibit to this board such evidences of title as they may deem necessary for the protection of the county at such time within the next five days as may be most convenient to them.

Commissioner Hitchcock said he apprehended that there was a great deal of feeling against the county in the community, and that the information which these abstract books could afford. He feared that they would be found to be not complete, and that there would be faults in the records. If they could obtain information beyond the mere device, they would give just information to the public as advertisers. They hankered upon the true title, and then we all should be in clearer in trust. Until the board could see what these abstracts were worth, they could not fix a price for them. He thought the members of the board should as yet reserve their opinion as well as their action. He hoped that the board would not, alarmed by the cry that the whole of Cook County would be in chancery, satisfy themselves that the county ought to come in, and that the county should take no action on the matters. He would give a year or so in behalf of non-residents to come in.

After further discussion, the committee rose and reported the resolution to the board, recommending its passage.

The resolution was adopted and the board adjourned till Monday, at 2 o'clock.

THE BUMMERS' RETREAT.

The Home of the "Soup-Ticket" Holders—How the Inmates Scramble and Behave Themselves—Smoking Prohibited—The English System Better Than the Chicago Plan.

Practical experience never having impressed the fact upon them, it is just possible that many persons are unconscious of the fact that at the old police station on Union street, between Randolph and Lake streets, any belated wanderer, overtaken by cold and darkness, and possessed of no money, can obtain free lodging for the night and a slice of bread and bacon in the morning. To secure these blessings he has only to register his name at a police station and make known his destitution, when what is facetiously termed a "ticket for soup" will be given him. But elsewhere should he be made to save the Fourth Side in case of fire.

Commissioner Brown asked how long the poles would remain up.

Mr. Chandler said as long as the city needed them.

Commissioner Rehm asked what streets the poles would be erected on.

Mr. Chandler replied, that they would follow the route of poles now up, to the intersection of Clark and Wells streets, with side lines to reach the fire alarm boxes. The route, he thought, should be determined by the board. About twenty miles of wire would be needed. The South Side boxes were already connected. Fifty boxes had been lost, and twenty-five now ones were on their way to the city. The cost of putting up and taking down the poles would not exceed $5 a mile.

Commissioner Chadwick wanted to know if the wires and poles would not revert to the telegraph company.

Mr. Chandler said they would, and that any part the company used would be exempt from rental.

Commissioner Brown asked if it was proposed to have water-towers on the North Side. There ought to be two or three, as they could not depend altogether on the boxes.

Fire Marshal Williams suggested that there be a look-out on the top of the old reservoir on the South Side.

Commissioner Chadwick thought the Water Works tower would be an excellent place.

The Secretary imagined that it would take all day to reach the top of the tower in cold, weather.

Commissioner Brown said a high look-out was not needed for this winter.

Fire Marshal Williams remarked that the tower on the Rehm Engine House was not burned down.

Assistant Marshal Walters reminded him that the stairway had been burned down.

Commissioner Brown thought the top could be reached with a ladder.

Commissioner Rehm did not think it would require much money to repair it. Two look-outs were necessary, and it was the intention to have them connected with telegraph lines.

Commissioner Chadwick said the lines could be up in two weeks, and he did not think the same facilities could be got for the same amount of money.

Commissioner Sheridan inquired the cost of the work per pole.

Mr. Chandler said the cheapest it could be done was $130 a mile.

Commissioner Sheridan thought that was a good investment for the company, as the poles and wires would revert to them when the city was prepared to erect them.

Commissioner Brown asked if the company proposed to put their own lines on the poles.

Mr. Chandler said they would if business warranted it.

Commissioner Brown remarked that they could telegraph for beer.

Commissioner Rehm thought there would be no beer on the North Side this winter.

Commissioner Sheridan said the proposition appeared to be a reasonable one on its face, but when analyzed it was not. The investment was for the telegraph company 20 per cent interest, which was exorbitant.

Commissioner Rehm was of the opinion that $2,000 would be sufficient to put up the wires and poles, and hence did not see the necessity of paying $130 a year for their use. He, therefore, moved that the Superintendent of the fire alarm telegraph be authorized to erect the lines at an expense not exceeding $2,000.

Commissioner Sheridan said he would second the motion if there was any chance of getting the money.

Commissioner Rehm did not think the Council would be so mean as to refuse to pay it.

Mr. Chandler said, it would be folly for any attempt to do the work with his present force—he hadn't men enough. He had had $4,000, but it had all or nearly all been expended in repairing the lines on the South Side and in replacing the batteries destroyed.

The motion was agreed to, Commissioner Brown voting in the negative because he did not know where the money was to come from.

A list of the property belonging to the Police and Fire Departments, destroyed by the fire, was submitted to the Secretary. The value of everything burned up is $146,165.19.

Fire Marshal Williams suggested that a hook and ladder truck be provided for the South Side, as there was none now available should there be a fire in the burnt district.

Assistant Marshal Barrett recommended that a new one be purchased in New York.

Marshal Williams said the wheels and iron parts, with the exception of the springs, of Truck No. 1, which was partially destroyed, could be used again. He would get estimates of the cost, and report to the Commissioners.

The board then adjourned.

CITY AFFAIRS IN BRIEF.

The Grand Duke's Visit.

The visit of the Grand Duke Alexis to

THE WHARTON CASE.

...Wharton, under Charge of ...Colonel W. Scott Ketchum—The Prosecution as it was Conducted in the Grand Jury.

...Indictment of the New York ...

...day last Mrs. Ellen G. ... H. W. Wharton, ... the United States Army, was ... the City upon the charge of poi... W. Scott Ketchum, a retired ... the United States Army, and ... Eugene Van Ness, a clerk ... house of Alexander Brown & ... to that their operation in ... peculiar quality fitted it for ... into the national currency ... the section has enabled many ... fluctuations of the past few years, ... the circulation of ... bankrupt, and its outstanding ... months, a leading and ... started when it was ar... accused of the crime of ...

...was made a majority, ...community held up their ... here, and declared that her ... the investigations was a ... ceased with the prevailing ... while many others ... and not only poisoned Gen... but full half dozen others ... sounding her husband and ...

...th of July, the grand jury ... took up the case, and the ... evidence adduced ... death of General Ketchum ... Mr. Van Ness, led to ...

...General Ketchum ... ington for the purpose ... to the family of Mrs. Wharton ... an intimate friend, and ... social purpose of collecting a ... which he held against her. ... daughter had power of attorney ... Wharton's house was taken very ... Wednesday, June 28. Dr. P. ... examined him, suspected ... immediately told his suspicions ... police. Mrs. Wharton's ... formed the first link in the ... chain of circumstantial evidence ... food in Mrs. Wharton's ... Shepard, of Ottawa, who has ... New York, that arrangements ... with one of the strongest houses ... negotiation of the first mort... Scott, Hanbold & Wat... contract for the purchase ... when he left. Mr. Wharton ... Burlington & Missouri River ... Iowa during the month of No... 48 acres, at an average price ... amounting to $29,610.30. ... Massachusetts Railroad has ... tariff from 4 cents per mile ... and to 3 cents for through ...

...Van Ness Railroad, ... 84, Peter, where it is ... Winona & St. Peter Railroad, ... (Kan.) Monitor says: "Mr. ... Shepard, of Ottawa, who has ... New York, that arrangements ... with one of the strongest houses ... negotiation of the first mort... Scott, Hanbold & West... contract for the purchase ... when he left. Mr. Wharton ... Burlington & Missouri River ... Iowa during the month of No... 48 acres, at an average price ... amounting to $29,610.30. ... Massachusetts Railroad has ... tariff from 4 cents per mile ... and to 3 cents for through ...

...Ketchum & St. Louis Railroad is ... to East Louisiana, and will be ... point this week. ... New Albany & St. Louis Rail... to Mt. Carmel, Ill., Nov. 27, ... Wharton had purchased ... between that town and Alton. ... thought that the ... reached by Jan. 1. ... Northern Railroad has been ... cent Central Railroad for iron ... paying 10 per cent per annum ... stock of the former. The road ... from New London, Conn., to ... ...s., a distance of 160 miles. ... Warren, Trumbull County, ... is talked of. ... meeting of the Baltimore & ... mpany, the report presented ... revenues of the road and its ... fiscal year were $3,497,292.42 ... over the previous year of $1,315,...

...Milwaukee & Northern Rail... burg and Plymouth (Wisc.) ... pidly. The company have ... anean lakes, one in Sankville, ... tamarack swamp enters ... town of Prodonia, in the ... of the grading suddenly dis... ...sinking to a depth of ... These "sinks" have been re... being brought up to the same ... by well is experienced through ... ...nks in the line. ... Northwestern Railroad will be ... opposite Sioux City with a ... ...

...wn Railroad will be completed ..., which will give that place ... Chicago over the C., B. & Q.

RAILROADS.

...ESSED HOGS.

...ed Hogs.

...on has now opened. ...rket is fairly estab... ...essed Hogs, we invite ...shippers and the trade ...eir consignments. ...ular facilities extend... ...es made on ship... ...ght of over ten years' ...ience here and pre... ...on to sale and deliv... ...consignments made

...& DAVIS,

...ington-st., Chicago. ...R. L. DAVIS.

RECORDS.

...Y & HULL.

...Upon arriving, at once took car... ...ed directly to the jail, ...ssible apartments had been pre... ...ssioner and her daughter. ...r's health is quite good, but ...ness has suffered fearfully ...ver confinement, and little trace ...ful girl she once was is now ...

...witnesses have already been ...d a large number more will un... ...ly. Sixty-three of the ...e been subpœnaed for the de... ...whom reside in Pennsylvania, ...former home. ...as many witnesses have been ...a distance has given color ...that the defence will set up the ...ity. The prisoner's friends ...ds from here, that such is not the fact, and ...lieve that she will be ac... ...ce in the case. The ...among those not inter... ...or against the prisoner seems ...

...BALTIMORE, Dec. 4. ...ial was commenced ...ay in Anne Arundel ...the tamarack swamp ...e town of Prodonia, in the ...of the grading suddenly dis... ...sinking to a depth of ... These "sinks" have been re... being brought up to the same ... by well is experienced through ... ...nks in the line. ... Northwestern Railroad will be ... opposite Sioux City with a ... ...

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...BALTIMORE, Dec. 4. ...ial was commenced ...ay in Anne Arundel ...

...left, but outside of the box. Mrs. Wharton was then arraigned for the murder of General Ketchum. Her counsel requested the Judge to allow the prisoner to take her seat, as the indictment was lengthy and her health feeble. Judge Miller said he would consent after the reading of the first count of the indictment. As Mrs. Wharton stood in the prisoner's box she wore a composed and sad expression. She showed no emotion, but seemed calm and resigned. Occasionally, however, a nervous movement of her lips and eyes showed that it was a painful and trying occasion to her. The crowd pressed toward her and stared with earnest curiosity. The Clerk of the court then said to the prisoner:

"Raise up your right hand." At these words she looked at him steadily, and drawing her right hand from her muff raised it to her shoulder. The reading of the lengthy indictment naming her as Elizabeth G. Wharton then followed, and at the conclusion of the first count she was allowed to rest herself. Half an hour was consumed in the reading of the indictment, and when the question, "What say you, guilty or not guilty?" was asked, Mrs. Wharton, in a clear voice, answered, "Not guilty." She then left the prisoner's box, and took her seat immediately in the rear of her counsel, with her daughter to her left, and Miss Rosa Neilson and Mrs. J. Crawford Neilson to her right. The witnesses for the state were then called, and the empanelling of the jury was proceeded with. Of the regular panel, eight jurors were accepted and ten challenged; one had formed an opinion, three were excused, and two absent. The Court then ordered twenty-five talesmen to be drawn and summoned to appear to-morrow at 10 o'clock, when the jury will be completed. The jurors selected were discharged until to-morrow, and the court adjourned.

After an adjournment of the court, Mrs. Wharton remained a short time in conversation with her counsel, when she returned to the jail. Among the jurors selected five are farmers, one telegraph operator, one physician, and one printer. Both the State and prisoner are represented by able counsel. Mr. Revell, State Attorney for Anne Arundel County, and A. K. Syester, Attorney-General for Maryland, for the prosecution; and J. Nevitt Steele and John W. Thomas of Baltimore, and Alexander B. Hagner, of Annapolis for the prisoner. Over 100 witnesses have been summoned, about one-third of whom are for the prosecution. Among those for the defence are a large number of distinguished army officers. On each side are a number of ladies occupying the highest social position; also several eminent physicians as medical experts and chemists. Owing to the intense interest excited by the case, a large number of special correspondents, representing various journals in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, and other cities, are here.

PUBLIC CHARITIES.

Special Report of the State Commissioners

BOARD OF PUBLIC CHARITIES,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Nov. 3, 1871.

The Hon. John M. Palmer, Governor:

The State Commissioners of Public Charities have nearly completed the annual visitation of State and county institutions, required by law, and will submit their regular annual report on or before the 15th day of December. In accordance with your Excellency's request, the following special report is respectfully submitted, in anticipation of the coming session of the General Assembly.

The commissioners of the Northern Insane Asylum have submitted to this board their estimates of the amount necessary to complete and furnish that institution, of which the following is a summary:

Three amounts appropriated by the General Assembly, up to this date, for building purposes, have been	
Appropriation of 1869	$125,000.00
Appropriation of 1871, for completion of north wing and purchase of land	38,585.36
Appropriation for rear building	45,000.00
Appropriation for heating and gas apparatus	20,000.00
Appropriation for reservoir and sewers	7,000.00
Total	$236,585.36

The actual cost of the items named, at the time of their completion, (including Trustees' and office expenses, commissions to architect, etc.,) will be $261,762.94. This will include certain items not contained in the estimates on which the appropriations were based, viz:

Freights paid by the State, supposed to have been part of the Lizzie donation	$6,000
Extras on north wing	5,000
Extra cost of heating apparatus, in consequence of adoption of petroleum and fuel	4,400
Total	$15,400

Deducting these items, the cost of the ... has exceeded the estimates by only $1,397.68; or if trustees and office expenses be also deducted, not at all.

To complete the centre building and south wing will cost ... $256,000.00

To furnish it throughout, including gas fixtures ... 27,460.00

Two barns and an icehouse ... 4,500.00

To alter, repair and enlarge the cottages on the farm, to accommodate 50 patients ... 20,000.00

Extra cost of north wing, rear building, and heating apparatus ... 13,397.68

Total additional appropriation needed ... $365,357.68

This amount, $225,357.68, will have to be appropriated, now or hereafter, in order to carry out the purpose of the act creating the asylum.

The Commissioners of the Southern Insane Asylum have also submitted estimates of the cost of completing that institution.

The appropriation of 1869 ($125,000) is the only one made thus far for Anna. An appropriation of $60,000 was voted by the present Assembly, but the act was not signed until after the expiration of the time named in the constitution.

The total amount expended, at the time of completion of the north wing, (including Trustees and office expenses, etc.) will be as follows:

Expended by the old board	$2,187.94
Expended by the new board	82,311.11
Indebtedness contracted, ...	62,767.00
	$147,266.05
Add Indebtedness, as above ...	41,767.00
Total appropriation needed ...	$188,436.05

To complete the centre building with cost ... $99,915.36
Rear building ... 29,134.80
Chimney stack ... 2,000.00
South wing ... 122,700.00
Steam heating, cooking, and laundry apparatus ... 25,450.00
Machinery, etc., for water works ... 23,750.00
Gas works ... 1,500.00
Furniture for 400 patients ... 21,000.00
Total ... $324,450.75
Add Indebtedness, as above ... 41,767.00
Total appropriation needed ... $366,217.75

After a careful examination of the situation and the necessities of the insane of Illinois, the Board of Public Charities are of the opinion that the interests of this unfortunate class require that the State should prosecute the work of building the necessary asylums with the utmost vigor. The insane are properly the wards of the State; and the provision for their care in Illinois is entirely inadequate to the existing demand. There are between twenty-five hundred and three thousand insane persons within our bounds, for whom the State has at present only one asylum, at Jacksonville, in which not more than four hundred and fifty can be successfully treated. The Elgin institution, which will be opened early in 1872, will be able to receive one hundred and twenty-five. The institution at Anna cannot receive a single patient for at least a year to come. Two hundred and forty are crowded into the Cook County Asylum, which was designed for one hundred and fifty. Three hundred more are scattered through the county alms-houses, outside of Cook County. If both the Northern and Southern Asylums are completed by the fall of 1872, not one-half of the insane of Illinois will even then be cared for. With these facts staring us in the face, we are compelled to recommend the greatest liberality to both these institutions, consistent with the finances of the State.

The amount expended on the Southern Normal University, to date, is $125,858.52. To complete and furnish the building, and grade and fence the grounds, will absorb the present balance on hand ($10,885.15) and require $105,782.80 in addition. Good policy would seem to dictate that the present investment of nearly $150,000 should not be allowed to go to waste for want of sufficient additional appropriations to make the investment available, especially in view of the effect which this institution will have upon the educational interests of Southern Illinois.

One other subject seems to demand notice at the hands of this board. We refer to the situation of Cook County and the county institutions, since the deplorable catastrophe at Chicago. The indebtedness of Cook County, before the fire, was $5,000,000, while the county valuation, at the last assessment, was $100,000,000—which would authorize an indebtedness, under the constitution, of $5,000,000. The annual county expenses are over $1,500,000, and will not be reduced—but rather increased—since the fire. It is thought that the new assessment to be made, cannot exceed 60, 000,000; and without exceeding the constitutional limit of taxation this valuation will not produce sufficient revenue for ordinary expenses by $100,000 or $150,000. The Court House, of which the county owned one-half, is in ruins, and the county has no available means with which to rebuild it; while the $1,000,000 appropriated by the General Assembly, at its late session, for the relief of Chicago, goes exclusively into the City Treasury. With the reduction in value of taxable property in Cook County, it is not yet clear whether the county can provide for its immediate necessities by loan. The county will probably apply for State aid in some form. The subject is beset with difficulties, and it is not easy to determine what is best to be done; but this board will gladly co-operate in any feasible scheme for the relief of the county. And our legal relation to the insane, especially, leads us to call the attention of your Excellency and of the General Assembly to the imperative necessity of seeing that the sufferings of this class, so utterly unable to help themselves, are not increased by the calamity through which the county has passed, at the hands of its officers on the part of the State. One State institution—the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary—was wholly consumed by the flames. There were thirty inmates, totally blind, in the house at the time. A trifling appropriation of $4,000—$2,500 for the rent of temporary buildings until the meeting of the General Assembly in 1873, and $1,500 for indispensable furniture—will enable the infirmary to continue its career of usefulness until arrangements can be matured for building a new edifice, upon suitable grounds. This is all that the institution asks, and, in our judgment, the request should be granted without hesitation. We have the honor to remain, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servants,

ELMER BALDWIN,
GEO. S. ROBINSON,
JOHN N. McCORD,
S. M. CRUMCH,
L. B. LAWSON,
Commissioners.

FRED. H. WINES, Secretary.

A Correction.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: Your issue of to-day, under the heading "Reports from the Courts," contains the following item: "In the case of Alexander Moody *v.* ... Max Schweizer, a verdict was returned for $1,100.96, and *judgment rendered*." (The italics are my own.)

Your reporter erred in stating that judgment was rendered. No judgment has been rendered, and a motion has been made to set aside the verdict as contrary to the evidence, and to let the case go before another jury.

In publishing this correction, which I make on behalf, and at the request of Mr. Schweizer, you will do justice to him, and oblige, yours, very respectfully,

PHILIP STEIN.

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.

—The greater part of the grading on the Arkansas branch of the Iron Mountain Railroad is completed. Track-laying is being rapidly pushed forward, and Poplar Bluff, expects to hear the whistle by spring.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

MONETARY.

THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 7.

The local money market remains unchanged. The banks have more money than they can find use for, and deposits are still increasing.

Exchange was in somewhat better request today, and sold between banks at from 25c to 50c per $1,000 discount.

Messrs. Lunt, Preston & Kean furnish the following quotations for buying and selling government bonds and local stock a in this market this afternoon:

	Buying.	Selling.
U. S. 6s of '81	117	117½
5-20s of '62 (called)	110½	110¾
5-20s of '62	110¼	
5-20s of '64	110¼	110½
5-20s of '65	110¾	111
5-20s of '65, January and July	110½	111
5-20s of '67, January and July	113½	113¾
5-20s of '68, January and July	114¾	114¾
10-40s	113¾	114¼
U. S. 7-30 per cents, (new issue)	109¼	109½
U. S. Currency 6s	122½	123
Northern Pacific Gold 7-30s		103½
Chicago City 7s		103½
Cook County 7s		100
Gold and Gold Coupons	109½	110
Land Warrants—bids	170	175
	182	185
Agricultural College Land Scrip		170—175

—A Des Moines paper of the 5th says the resident stockholders in the Republic Insurance Company in that city are familiar from the headquarters of the company, which is on the road, the remaining 80 per cent, at the rate of 10 per cent per month, and notified them that the company proposes to collect this and continue business. It is understood that a meeting of the Des Moines stockholders will be held soon to consider the situation and decide on the course they will pursue. Some of them are reported as being in favor of paying up and continuing business, while still others think it best to close up and not should go into bankruptcy. It is probable that the course pursued by the Des Moines stockholders will be a fair index of what will be the course pursued by the country stockholders generally. A few days ago it was mentioned that the stockholders in the Iowa companies were closing their entire indebtedness by buying up the company's certificates of indebtedness at about 80 cents on the dollar, which is their present market price. In this way the total amount that the stockholders would have to pay, would be about $1,280,000 instead of $4,000,000 as would be required to pay the full 80 per cent of stock now remaining unpaid.

—A committee of policy holders in the Home Mutual Insurance Company of this city are endeavoring to have a Receiver appointed for the company. The officers of the company promise to pay 25 cents if "let alone."

—A wild-cat concern calling itself the "Globe Insurance Company of Chicago" had been illegally issuing policies previous to the fire in this city. Its assets were *nil* and now its officers are nowhere to be found, and its policy holders are in tribulation thereat. In the Annual Insurance Report for 1871, the Auditor of State says:

During the latter part of February the ... present year I was informed that the Globe Insurance Company of Chicago, Illinois, in process of incorporation was seeking business and issuing policies without having complied with the law. I immediately requested proceedings to be commenced against the company in the Cook County Court. The proceedings were commenced, and I was informed by the company that it desired to do further business, and making an arrangement with the Court to that effect, it was agreed that no ... should be made until full compliance with the law should be ... Notwithstanding the "arrangement" above indicated by the Auditor, it appears that the company ... did go on doing business, and discovering this fact the Auditor and the public as we find the parties called the business of the "Globe Insurance Company" were issuing policies as late as May. The President of the Company is F. H. Walker, and the Secretary L. W. Bailey.

—We mentioned a week ago that the German Insurance Company of Cleveland, and the Aurora, of this State, were refusing to compromise with claimants for losses under their policies at 25 cents on the dollar. The German, we understand, had issued on 200 policies, and has settled with about 30 of the claimants at 25 cents, leaving about 150 unsettled yet. The Aurora had issued on 170 policies, and has settled with about forty of the claimants of these. The remainder, however, do not feel satisfied with 25 per cent, and an application has been filed in the United States District Court to put the Aurora into bankruptcy. We are informed by the representative of the company that proceedings have been commenced.

The disturbance of money in the European markets attracts general attention. Orders from the German markets, particularly, are large for American securities. It is said the French Government will redeem a large amount of its outstanding bonds between January 1 and April 1, 1872. The London *Times* of November 21 calls attention to the plethora of money as follows:

It is very evident, if we may judge from such external appearances as are presented in our money rooms, or are to be read in the transactions of the week in the Stock Exchange, that the business of the world is now very flush of money. England is overflowing with it. America is carried along at the top of the tide of prosperity. In Germany they are trying to bring out fresh enough schemes for the employment of the capital which is lying idle and waiting.

The *Times*, however, professes to fear that this is only the beginning of an era of speculation which will end in disaster.

—The Canadians are disgusted with the results of the official enumeration of their population and business. In 1860 they estimated that the total population of the four provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick was 3,385,000. They had arrived at this conclusion by estimating the probable increase of their population to be in the same ratio as the increase of their imports of foreign goods. The official returns of the total population of Ontario and Quebec was 1,842,265, and the total annual imports of foreign goods, including those for consumption, for warehouse, transit between the United States and Europe, and for export, $41,534,782. In 1861 the imports were $43,864,886, and for 1870 $108,350,000. Now that the census has been taken, it is found that there has been no such proportion as was supposed between the increase of population and business, and that the four provinces, instead of having a total population of 4,385,000, have only 3,884,264. However large this factory this may be to the Canadians, it is at least an interesting fact that the increase of the import trade of Canada which has considerably more than doubled during the last ten years, as is shown by the foregoing figures, has probably been caused mainly by the increase of trade between these Western States of this Union and Europe, passing through Montreal.

COMMERCIAL.

THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 7.

The following were the receipts and shipments of produce at this port during the past twenty-four hours, as far as reported, with the corresponding quantities one year ago:

	Receipts.		Shipments.	
	1871.	1870.	1871.	1870.
Flour, brls	7,400	5,304	1,804	5,300
Wheat, bu	14,600	20,000		
Corn, bu	191,385	92,135	19,041	27,147
Oats, bu	17,400	13,320	10,100	7,910
Rye, bu	700	600	400	350
Barley, bu	8,622	3,560	6,047	1,388
Grass seed, lbs	8,994	2,600	15,000	10,100
Flax seed, lbs				
Broom corn, lbs	30,750	96,320	9,250	67,520
Dried meats, lbs	97,310		1,140,960	671,360
Beef, brls	65		105	1,615
Pork, brls	510	48	299	706
Lard, lbs	295,400	14,400	998,000	170,800
Tallow, lbs	18,900	12,720	21,000	20,580
Butter, lbs	38,513	20,760	34,180	7,970
Cheese, lbs	2,000	1,200	61	1,275
Live hogs, No	27,884	17,972	4,417	4,295
Cattle, No	1,320	1,911	1,321	332
Sheep, No	187,245	138,615	44,670	140,340
Highwines, brls	435	750	231	415
Wool, lbs	55,500	29,930	25,670	9,190
Potatoes, bu	118	118		
Lumber, m	294	677	617	1,070
Shingles, m	200	200	313	1,677
Lath, m			61	225
Salt, bbls		1,861	887	1,375

Withdrawn yesterday for city consumption 1,726 bu wheat; 2,313 bu corn; 4,000 bu oats; 116 bu rye; 500 bu barley.

The following grain has been inspected into store up to 10 o'clock this morning: 84 cars wheat; 194 cars corn; 25 cars oats; 1 car rye; 13 cars barley. Total, 329 cars, or 129,000 bu.

The amount of trading in produce to-day was rather heavier than in days past. Prices were generally well sustained, and in several cases an advance was established, owing to light offerings here and firmness elsewhere. Offers from abroad were again liberal, and not much reported for shipment. Indeed, the situation with regard to shipping grain from this city is certainly discouraging. The TRIBUNE this morning called attention to the fact of a discrimination of 2½c per 100 lbs against beef shipped from Chicago to the East, as compared with the same product shipped through here from Kansas City. That is but a sample of the way in which many prominent railroad officials are doing their worst to intensify the mischief wrought by our recent calamity, and make permanent the interruption to business which it was hoped would prove to be but temporary. Shippers of grain and other produce from this point will do well to follow the example set by the beef-packers, and make a united effort to receive the same terms from the railroads as are accorded to others. They have the power to obtain a recognition of their rights, if they will only go to work in the right way. The truth is that the evil now complained of is no novelty. The same discrimination, in kind if not in degree, was made all through the past two winters, and quietly submitted to. It is about time to institute a reform.

High winds were strong, owing to local security, and all advance in New York. A sale was made early of 100 brls at 98c, but after that, 98@98½c was freely bid, while holders asked 98½@99c, at which range the market closed. We note sale of 20 brls, two years old, at $1.50, and 130 brls new at 91c.

Dressed hogs were too higher, being in light supply, while New York was reported strong. A total of 270 head sold at 7½@8c for light, and 7½c for good smooth lots, the outside being for round lots.

Provisions were firm and moderately active, though the receipts of hogs reported for yesterday, 27,884 head, were the largest of any day in the past four years, and 25,000 head were reported in up to 12 o'clock this morning. Buyers of produce held off early, expecting a decline from the causes left behind that holders were firm at the meeting as yesterday, and then began to bid, the result being a still firmer feeling, principally in goods not noticed below. There is also a very good order demand here for meats, and it would probably be much larger but for the fact that high rates of freight have stood in the way; a material reduction in that direction on hogs has materially stimulated the purchase of the animal for shipment. Packers are not wanted for the future. The market closed at the following range of quotations: Mess pork, cash or seller the month, $12.90@13.00; do seller January, $13.00@13.05; do seller February, $13.45@13.50; do seller March, $13.70@13.75. Lard, cash, or seller the month, 8 1-2@8 5-8; do seller January, 8 3-4@9c; do seller February, 9½c; do seller March, 9c. Green meats 9½@9 5-8c for shoulders; 9½@9 3-4c for short ribs; 9 3-4@10c for short clear. Boxed meats 9-8@1c higher than the above quotations for loose. Pickled Cumberlands, 9½c for shoulders; 11½c for short ribs; 11¾c for short clear. Pickled hams, 12@12½c; extra mess beef, $18.00; city fallow, 6 1-4@6½c; sales were reported of 1,000 brls mess pork, cash and seller the month, at $12.90; 1,000 brls do at $12.95; 500 brls do at $12.92 1-2; 1,500 brls do seller January at $13.00; 1,000 brls do at $13.20; 1,000 brls do seller February, at $13.50; 500 brls do at $13.45; 500 brls lard at 9 1-16c; 250 tcs do at 9 1-8c; 500 tcs do seller February, at 9 1-4c; 500 tcs do seller March; 100,000 lbs green shoulders (part country) at 9 3-4c; 50,000 lbs salted shoulders at 9½@9 5-8c; 30,000 lbs do at 9 3-4c; 100 bbls pickled hams at 11½c; 50,000 lbs short clear at 6 3-4@7c; 50,000 lbs do at 7c; 100 boxes short clear at 7 3-4c; 100 boxes do at 7 7-8c; 50,000 lbs short clear delivered in New York at 7 7-8c; 50,000 lbs do at 7 5-8c; 40,000 lbs do at 7 7-8c; 50,000 lbs do at 7 3-4c; 10,000 pcs do at 7 7-8c; 50,000 lbs do at 7 5-8c; 10,000 pcs do at 7 3-4c; 40,000 lbs do at 8c; 1,000 brls pickled pigs' feet at $5 per brl.

Flour was in refreshment so Southern account, but the principal inquiry was for low grades, which are now very scarce, and some buyers were not able to obtain their wants. Offers from abroad were rather more liberal, and sales were reported of 1,000 brls at $4.25 for No. 3 spring; 1,000 brls at $4.50 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $4.75 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $5.00 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $5.25 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $5.50 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $5.75 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $6.00 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $6.25 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $6.50 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $6.75 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $7.00 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $7.25 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $7.50 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $7.75 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $8.00 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $8.25 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $8.50 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $8.75 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $9.00 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $9.25 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $9.50 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $9.75 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $10.00 for No. 2 spring; 1,000 brls at $10.25 for No. 2 spring; 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GOVERNMENTAL REPORTS.

Internal Revenue---The Army---The Navy---Agriculture.

INTERNAL REVENUE.

The Acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue reports that the aggregate receipts from all sources of internal revenue (exclusive of the direct tax upon lands, and the duty upon the circulation and deposits of National Banks), were for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, $144,011,176.34. This sum includes the amounts refunded and allowed on drawbacks. Drawbacks have been allowed on general merchandise amounting to $22,887.97. This amount is larger than that allowed for the previous year, on account of the adjudication of old claims for drawbacks on cotton goods rendered admissible by joint resolution No. 78, approved July 14, 1870. There was refunded during the past fiscal year, for taxes illegally assessed and collected, $617,581. This large increase over the year preceding was due to the adjustment of claims that had been suspended during former years for more complete consideration. This class includes the claim of one of the States, amounting to $45,866, for taxes collected on dividends upon stock owned by the State. This was the largest claim ever allowed by the bureau, and was referred to the Attorney General for his advice.

The Commissioners' estimate of receipts for the current fiscal year under the present law is $125,000,000.

SPIRITS.

The number of distilleries (other than fruit) registered during the last fiscal year was 1,043. The number of fruit distilleries registered was 8,193. Of the distilleries (other than fruit) 517 were operated during the year; and of the fruit distilleries 6,007. The returns show a total production in taxable gallons from material other than fruit of 84,576,446; and from fruit, 2,199,523; total yearly production, 86,775,969 gallons. The total quantity of spirits in the United States not internal revenue warehouses May 1, 1871, was 41,188,713 proof gallons, a decrease in quantity on Market since November 15, 1870, of 4,452,580 gallons. The receipts from spirits for the year were $40,281,848. The amount of tax received on fermented liquors at $1 a barrel was $7,758,740. The increase over former years is believed to be due in part, at least, to the greater attention given to that subject by the internal revenue officers. This attention has detected some defects in the law which call for early remedial legislation.

TOBACCO.

The total receipts from tobacco for the year were $33,398,607, an increase of $2,236,500 over the preceding year. The manufactured tobacco on which taxes were collected was as follows: Chewing tobacco, snuff, &c., class 32 cents, 64,617,868 pounds; smoking tobacco, scraps, shorts, &c., class 16 cents, 30,517,635 pounds. Add to this the quantity exported, 10,021,081 pounds, and the excess remaining in warehouses June 30, 1871, over June 30, 1870, 73,577 pounds, giving a total product for the year of 105,858,993 pounds. The total number of cigars, cheroots, &c., on which taxes were collected, was 1,322,841,357. The steady and uniform increase from month to month in the revenues derived from manufactured tobacco, cigars, &c., since the present law went into operation, by which the mode of collecting taxes on these articles was changed from assessment after removal from the place of manufacture to prepayment by means of suitable stamps before the goods are removed from the place of manufacture, has fully demonstrated the superiority of the present system. But notwithstanding the encouraging progress that has been made, the Commissioner is forced to the conclusion that during the last fiscal year much tobacco has escaped taxation through the refilling of empty stamped packages; the second use of stamps; the use of counterfeit stamps; the removal of unstamped quantities from the place of manufacture without stamps, and the stamping as "class 16 cents" of tobacco, which, under the law, should have been stamped at the rate of 32 cents per pound. A uniform rate of tax, while it would allow every manufacturer to manipulate his products in his own way, without restrictions being placed upon his modes of manufacturing, would effectually close the door to the perpetration of fraud or the evasion of taxes by improper classifications. His own opinion is that, with a tax at 24 cents, taking into account the natural increase of the revenue as shown by comparison between the collections of succeeding years, and with the advantage of some legislation hereinafter recommended, we shall be able to keep the collections on tobacco up to those under the present rates. If, however, it should be the opinion of Congress that the yield of internal revenue should not be materially decreased, then, to compensate in part to the revenue the expected large loss from the expiration of the income tax during the current fiscal year, and the free list, also from "Articles and occupations formerly taxed but now exempt," a rapidly increasing item of coffee, he would advise a consolidation of the tobacco tax at 32 cents per pound.

Much of the fraud above referred to is effected through the instrumentality of peddlers. He therefore recommends that every person who sells, or offers to sell manufactured tobacco, snuff, or cigars, from wagons in the manner of peddlers, traveling from place to place, be required to pay a special tax of $15, $25, or $50, according as he travels with one, two, or more horses or mules, and to accompany with such regulations as may be prescribed by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

For the last three years this office has been in possession of information that a large and increasing amount of raw or leaf tobacco, in portions of the country, was being sold at retail directly to consumers, without the payment of tax. Evidences of this traffic have, from time to time, been furnished by Assessors and Collectors, and more especially by Supervisors, who, in taking transcripts from the books, required by law to be kept by leaf dealers, have reported that they find scores of pages of these books where entries were made of sales from one-half pound to four thousand each; and the Commissioner is constantly in receipt of letters from manufacturers of tobacco complaining of the injury to their business arising from such sales, and informing me that in some localities where they formerly received frequent and large orders for manufactured tobacco they now make no sales. The same parties who used to make these orders are now ordering instead supplies of natural leaf from the wholesale leaf dealers. Against this traffic grown to such large proportions, so injurious to their business as manufacturers, and antagonistical to the interest of the government revenue, they ask to be protected. To this end he recommends that Section 59 of the act of July 20, 1868, be so amended as to impose a special tax of $500 on every person who shall make a business of selling raw or leaf tobacco to persons other than those who have paid a special tax as leaf dealers or manufacturers of tobacco, snuff, or cigars, or who shall sell leaf tobacco in quantities less than twenty-five pounds, or who shall sell such tobacco directly to consumers, or for consumption, without its being manufactured; and, if this is not deemed sufficient, he would further recommend a tax of $5,000 annually, as would be equivalent to the tax on the same amount and value of manufactured tobacco. Such a provision of law will not only give the required protection to the manufacturer, who now pays a special tax for carrying on his business, in addition to a specific tax on all his products, but it will also tend to increase revenue from this source.

There are now in operation 16 export bonded warehouses. The total amount stored in them during the fiscal year was 26,379,394 pounds; quantity withdrawn for exportation, 10,021,082; withdrawn for consumption, 11,600,000. The figures show that less than half of the tobacco, &c., removed in bond from the manufactories is actually exported from the eight bonded warehouses established at the several ports of Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, San Francisco, and Portland, Oregon, in which were stored during the year 9,677,297 pounds of manufactured tobacco, only 437,495 pounds during this period were withdrawn for exportation, while 8,880,056 pounds were withdrawn for consumption on payment of the tax. Nearly nine-tenths of the tobacco exported from the country is shipped through the bonded warehouses at New York and Richmond, and of this a large portion is never stored in the bonded warehouses. The shipments are made directly from the factories, the goods being carted by the warehouses and only constructively entered therein, though the owners are charged with a month's storage. The practical operation of this system of bonded warehouses hitherto has been to give to a few, more particularly to the proprietors of the warehouses, the same facilities for storing tobacco without the re-payment of the tax, as were given by the former system of class B bonded warehouses, abolished by act July 30, 1868. It is Mr. Douglass' opinion, and so far as he has been able to ascertain, it is the opinion of manufacturers generally, that the present system of export bonded warehouses can be entirely abolished to the interest both of the government and of manufacturers. Under the present system, all the tobacco bonded at the warehouses in Richmond is exported without even entering the warehouse, and the same is true of much of the tobacco bonded in New York. By abolishing the system of warehouses, and providing for the exportation of manufactured tobacco, snuff, and cigars, as other merchandise is exported, allowing a drawback of the tax paid upon proof of landing abroad, requiring the tobacco to be loaded under the supervision of an Inspector, and the tax-paid stamps to be destroyed by such officer to prevent reloading, it is believed a large portion of the expenses now incurred by the manufacturer in exporting their goods would be saved. The government would receive the taxes on all goods when removed from the place of manufacture, all jobbers and dealers in manufactured tobacco would be placed on the same footing with regard to the traffic in tax-paid goods, and the unfair advantages enjoyed by a few removed. He recommends that Congress provide that evidence of loss at sea satisfactory to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall have all the force of a landing certificate for the purposes of drawback. Other systems of exportation designed to remedy the evils of the present bonded warehouse system have been suggested, but they involve the multiplying of bonds to be taken in lieu of tax. A multiplication of such bonds would result in an increase of losses to the government. The records of United States courts in many sections of the country are largely occupied by suits on bonds taken for spirits and refined petroleum under similar systems to those proposed. In a large majority of the cases, the principals being insolvent generally before the suit was brought, the sureties have either not been found on original process, or if found a return of no goods on the final process has realized to the government a total loss of its supposed security.

THE NEW STAMPS.

Important changes have been made in the materials and manner of preparing stamps, in order to prevent fraudulent issues, counterfeits, and re-use. Heretofore nearly all the issues of revenue stamps have been printed in a single color upon ordinary commercial paper, furnished by the parties doing the printing. Now the government provides a distinctive paper, and permits the printing of stamps on no other, and requires that all stamps shall be printed in two or more colors. It is well known that the revenue derived from postage stamps has been defrauded through the fraudulent re-use of stamps, evil-disposed persons being able, by the use of chemicals, to remove the cancellation marks entirely without injuring the appearance of the stamps. It is believed that the stamps now being furnished cannot be thus tampered with, especially the adhesive tobacco, snuff, and cigar stamps printed upon chameleon paper. This paper so effectually changes color upon the application of chemical agents to remove the cancellation marks as to render restoration to its original state impossible. A soluble ink is also used in the preparation of the stamps, any acid or alkali of sufficient strength to remove the cancellation made would destroy also that portion of the stamps which is printed in the soluble ink. With the exception of the documentary and proprietary stamps, none are allowed to be entirely prepared by any single establishment.

SEIZURES, SUITS AND COMPROMISES.

The whole number of cases compromised during the year was 730; the amount of tax accepted $348,795.12; assessed penalty fixed by law, $20,076.36; specific penalty in lieu of fines, penalties, and forfeitures, $248,636.50; total amount received by compromises, $618,497.98; whole number of suits decided in favor of the United States, 1,787; against the United States, 456; amount collected and paid into Court in suits in personam (including indictments), on account of judgments, fines, etc., $64,743.29; amount collected and paid into court as proceeds of forfeiture, $145,238; total value of seizures, $915,240.

PROPOSED EXEMPTION.

Mr. Douglass renews Mr. Delano's recommendation that prepared mustard, sauces, syrups, jams, and jellies be relieved from the stamp duty.

FORFEITED TOBACCO.

There are now in the hands of Collectors and United States Marshals, stored in bonded warehouses and elsewhere, considerable quantities of condemned, forfeited, and abandoned tobacco so depreciated in value that it cannot be sold for enough to pay charges and fees and necessary stamps. This tobacco was manufactured under the old law, consequently it is unstamped. Under the present law it cannot be offered for sale without first being properly stamped, and there is no provision of law under which the Commissioner of Internal Revenue can furnish stamps for it. Mr. Douglass earnestly recommends that Congress authorize the Commissioner, upon requisition of the officers having custody or control of such tobacco, to furnish stamps to be attached and canceled before the same is offered for sale.

ACCIDENTAL DESTRUCTION OF STAMPS.

It frequently happens that tax-paid stamps are lost from packages of spirits by unavoidable accident, without fault on the part of those persons interested, the spirits being thus exposed to seizure and detention. The present law makes no provision restamping such packages except on the repayment of the amount of the stamps as if the stamps did not protect alike the interests of the government and the taxpayer, authority should be given to complete that protection by restamping.

THE TAX ON SHIP-BUILDERS.

It was recommended last year by Mr. Delano that Congress remit all such taxes as ship-builders might have paid under the fourth section of the act of March 31, 1863, as had not been collected. No action was taken upon the subject, and not feeling at liberty to allow further delay, Mr. Douglass has ordered their collection.

CLAIMS FOR REFUNDING TAXES.

Mr. Douglass recommends that the Commissioner be prohibited from considering or allowing any claim for the refunding of taxes alleged to have been illegally collected, unless such claims be presented within two years from the time the tax was paid; and that all claims be barred in the courts after six years from the date of the payment of the tax.

PENALTIES.

Section 44 of the act of July 20, 1868, should be amended by making the minimum penalties smaller, such penalty now being a fine of $1,000, with not less than six months' imprisonment. The undue severity of this punishment would seem to be obvious as applied to offences of carrying on the business of rectifier or retail liquor dealer, rectifier, &c., manufacturer of stills, without having paid the special tax, in cases where no intent to defraud exists, the omission arising from ignorance of the law or other circumstances not fraudulent, yet constituting no legal excuse. This practical effect of providing so disproportionate a punishment for these offences is to discourage complaints, defeat convictions, and induce suspensions of sentence in many cases in which some reasonable punishment should be enforced, as well to vindicate the law as to secure future compliance with its requirements.

Section 63 of the act of July 13, 1866, page 31 of Compilation of 1867, should be amended to make it apply to cases arising under any Internal Revenue act. As it is now it applies only to offences under that act of 1866, and the previous act to which it was an amendment. The limitation of amount should be extended from $300 to $500, as contained in the parallel provisions of the customs laws.

Mr. Douglass renews the recommendation of early legislation for the final disposition of the lands which have been acquired or are now owned by the United States under the direct tax law.

UNSETTLED ACCOUNTS OF FORMER COLLECTORS.

The complaint which has heretofore existed of delay in the settlement of ex-Collectors' accounts has been, it is believed, entirely removed by the regulations of the present office now in force. Prior to April, 1870, it appeared that the accounts of sixty-one ex-Collectors had been closed, which number, however has since been increased to 454, leaving at the present time 260 accounts still open. Of this number 113 have been placed in the hands of United States attorneys for suit on the bonds of the delinquent Collectors, the residue being in course of adjustment at this office.

THE ARMY.

The following is an abstract of Secretary Belknap's report:

The reorganization of the army required by the act of July 15, 1870, has been accomplished. The enforcement of that portion relating to a reduction of commissioned officers demanded strict investigation of the records of the military conduct and service of superior officers, and forced upon them the department an unpleasant duty. It is believed, however, that the decisions finally reached were fair, impartial, and for the good of the service. In accordance with the same act the number of enlisted men was on July 1 reduced to 30,000; indifferent soldiers were discharged, and the standard of recruits was raised with a view to improving the character of the rank and file. The staff of general officers was also reduced to the simple requirements of the army in time of peace, and the line officers thus relieved from detached duty were ordered to their regiments, where they could be of more benefit to the service.

The total expenditure for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1870, were $30,644,042.75; the expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1870, were $37,955,875.40, which sum includes $3,067,500 for river and harbor improvements. The expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1870, were about $40,000,000, including for river and harbor improvements $5,945,000. Thus during the year 1869-70 the reduction in expenses of the War Department amounted to $22,988,397.36, and during the year 1870-71 a further reduction of $17,955,675.40 was made. For the next fiscal year, 1871-72, there is appropriated $30,530,775, including for river and harbor improvements $4,407,500.

It is with great embarrassment and difficulty that the appropriations made at the last session of Congress—reduced as they were below the estimates of the department—can be so economized as to answer the pressing requirements of the service. The operations of active warfare in Arizona, in connection with Indian difficulties there, are such as necessarily require large expenditures, and the causes which have produced this necessity were not anticipated by Congress when the appropriations were made.

Desertions during the past few months have largely increased. The reports received at the department indicate that the cause is one of the pay of soldiers from $16 to $13 per month has contributed greatly to this result.

The retired list of the army is now limited to 200. The endeavor has been to equalize the selections for that list from both the higher and lower grades of the officers entitled to be placed upon it, so that it may not be filled to an unreasonable extent by officers of high rank and consequently greater compensation.

The number of graves in national cemeteries is 317,930, including 2,395 added during the year. The cemeteries cover an area, in the aggregate, of about 1,800 acres of land, acquired at a cost of $170,000.

The corps of engineers during the past year has been actively engaged upon the works of river and harbor improvements, and in surveys and reconnoissances and construction of light houses. With the appropriations granted for fortifications in our principal harbors, these works along the Northern Atlantic and Pacific coasts have been pushed forward in their modifications as rapidly as the circumstances would permit, and already the batteries are beginning to assume the character demanded by the requirements of modern warfare. The modifications referred to look to the strengthening of our works by the introduction of heavy earthen batteries for the largest guns and mortars.

During the fiscal year small arms and ordnance stores to the amount of $10,000,000 have been sold, and the entire proceeds, except a small sum retained to meet expense of preparing other stores for sale, have passed into the Treasury beyond the control of this department. The operations at the arsenals have been confined to the manufacture of supplies required by the troops, to the care of stores on hand, and to the manufacture of one or two experimental gun-carriages. It is hoped that Congress will grant the appropriations asked for to carry out the plans for the continuance of the work at the great arsenal of construction for the Mississippi Valley at Rock Island. Several kinds of experimental rifles and carbines, as recommended by the St. Louis board, have been manufactured at Springfield armory for the comparative trial in the field. An inspection of that armory, not long since, satisfied me of the necessity for continuing the appropriations for its maintenance and support.

Sufficient information will doubtless be derived from the use of the experimental arms in the field, to enable a board to recommend a breech-loading system for adoption. The armament of State troops should be like that of the national forces, who now use breech-loading small arms. The reserve of 10,000 arms of that kind now on hand is not half sufficient to supply the State upon quotas now due.

An increase of the annual appropriations under the law of 1808, providing for arming and equipping the militia is urgently required.

At Fort Whipple, Virginia, instruction has been given in the meteorological duties and studies required of the signal-stations for observations and reports of storms throughout the United States, and in military signaling and telegraphy to officers of the army and navy. By a comprehensive telegraphic organization each of the signal stations is in telegraphic communication with the Signal Office at Washington, and from each of them daily and nightly weather reports are received at the department. These reports are studied, bulletined and charted at the office of the Chief Signal Officer, and are furnished at the same time to most of the principal cities and ports of the country. The deductions from the study of the reports are instantly telegraphed to the press and during the past year there have issued in this manner from the Chief Signal Office and the observing stations 50,000 charts. In the month of October the display of cautionary signals, announcing the probable approach of storms, was commenced for the first time in the United States at twenty ports upon the lakes and Atlantic and Gulf coasts. These signals are arranged to be displayed at any hour of the day or night upon the receipt of telegraphic orders from Washington. While the service has been rapidly organized and pressed to these results, each step has been taken only when the public mind seemed to be educated and prepared for it, and the public necessity demanded it. The average time of the receipt by telegraph of the reports and observations made simultaneously from all the stations throughout the United States has been forty-five minutes. The average time elapsing between the moment at which telegrams were sent to the office at Washington from the most distant stations to that at which the deductions are made, published, and issued to the press has been ninety minutes. Of the deductions published from this office, 69 per cent are, after a careful examination of the statistics, considered to have been fully verified. This percentage, increased by those regarded as partially verified will make an aggregate of 90 per cent of average verifications.

It has been absolutely necessary to retain about one-sixth of the army in those States of the South east of the Mississippi which were engaged in the war of the rebellion. Numerous applications for troops to aid in the enforcement of the laws were received from United States Marshals, officers of internal revenue, and State officials; urgent appeals for assistance crowded in from private citizens, and it soon became evident that the security of the people demanded the continued presence of the regular forces. It is a painful fact, which merits serious consideration, that in some portions of the South, freedom of opinion is not tolerated, that crimes are expressed in opposition to the doctrines which originated the late rebellion. Indisputable evidence establishes the fact, which in provinces, too, by the experience of innumerous sufferers, that an armed rebellion of regular organization and great strength now exists in parts of those States. The frequent reports by army officers of perfect reliability made after mature observation and judgment, conclusively show that the ramifications of this organized body are extensive; that its system is arranged with great cunning and shrewdness; that its persecutions extend in the dark hours of the night, and in cowardly disguise, to persons of every age, sex, and condition who dare to exercise a freedom of conduct, action, or speech which disagrees with the political doctrines of these marauders. This body of conspirators, constituted for the purpose of crushing out many of the inherent liberties of the defenceless people of those States, defies the law, and, under the authority of the government; and so long as it exists, so long will it be necessary to aid the civil authorities with the armed force of the nation in putting down this organized rebellion, and in bringing the leaders to speedy punishment.

The intelligence of the great fire of October in Chicago reached the department while the flames were in progress, and orders were at once telegraphed to officers in charge of army depots to forward to that city supplies for the homeless and destitute. The promptness with which the wishes of the department were carried out merits high commendation. In a few hours clothing, rations, tents, and provisions were on their way to the stricken city, and this immediate action relieved much distress. The records and property in the building occupied for headquarters of the Military Division of the Missouri River were totally destroyed, but the greater portion of the most valuable can be duplicated from the War Department. Several companies of troops were ordered to the city by General Sheridan, under whose supervision they assisted in preserving order during the trying days which succeeded the conflagration. The official and personal conduct of General Sheridan, while entrusted, by common consent, with the management of affairs in the city, receives the emphatic approval of this department. Similar proofs of appreciation of various kinds were made to the Governor of Wisconsin, for the relief of the sufferers in that State, and relief was also afforded to those in Michigan. Without further application, Congress will, without doubt, record its sanction of this action.

In the surveys of the lakes, operations were carried on in Lakes Superior, Michigan, St. Clair, and Champlain, and the progress of the work in the field and office has been highly satisfactory. The geological survey along the central route of communication with the Pacific coast has been actively continued, and the publication of the results, already begun, is looked for with much interest.

THE NAVY.

The main points of Secretary Robeson's report are as follows:

The navy of the United States now consists of 179 ships, of all classes. These are calculated to carry, when in commission for service, 1,340 guns, exclusive of howitzers and small armed launches. Of the 179 vessels 49 are sailing ships, and the remainder side-wheel steamers or sailing vessels with auxiliary screws; 53 of these, carrying 1,340 guns, are in the service, attached to the various fleets and stations as regular cruisers, despatch boats, hospital, store, receiving and practice ships; these, with the tugs and small vessels in use at the various navy yards and stations, make the force in commission for all the purposes of naval service. Of the remainder, 6 are nearly ready for use, and will join the various squadrons as soon as their crews can be enlisted and organized. Out of 52 monitors only one is now in commission, the balance being laid up at various stations, but principally at League Island, where, in the fresh water of the Delaware, their iron bottoms will deteriorate with less rapidity than in the salt water of the other stations; 17 are under repair at the various yards; 12 are on stocks, never having been completed and launched; and the balance of those whose names are on the list are laid up as ordinary. Of these last, a very large proportion, including almost all of those built of unseasoned white oak, are unfit for use, and cannot be repaired with advantage.

During the year the navy has supplied 16 officers and 350 men for duty in the Coast survey service; has completed the survey of the Darien and Tehuantepec routes, has made extensive surveys and soundings for telegraph cables, and, under the direction of Congress, fitted out and despatched three store ships loaded with provisions by the charitable people of our country, for the sufferers from the European war, and has, under like direction, sent out a vessel, completely fitted, equipped, and supplied, to explore the Arctic Ocean "toward the North Pole."

The report of the Tehuantepec surveying expedition, under command of Captain Shufeldt, shows that a ship canal across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec is not only practicable, but that the obstacles in the way of the canal route are of the most ordinary nature. The total length of such a canal will be one hundred and seventy-two miles, including river navigation. It will require locks to overcome a height of seven hundred and thirty-two feet. The Coatzacoalcos River, forming the harbor at the Atlantic side is well sheltered, and will require dredging at only a few points.

The survey of the Isthmus of Darien, under Commander Selfridge, shows that the Atrato River is navigable for 100 of the distance, having a width of 1,500 feet and a depth nowhere less than 30 feet. The actual length of the necessary canal is 31 2-10 miles, the distance from the Atrato River to Caprata Bay, of which 23 miles is a flat plain, with a rise of 50 feet, and no difficulties of construction. The remaining 8 miles present the only engineering obstacles. Commander Selfridge's estimates of cost are based upon a canal 120 feet wide and 26 feet deep. It is proposed to lock up to an summit level of 90 feet, at which point the canal is fed by the Napipi River with a volume, at its lowest stage, of over 900,000 cubic feet per minute, a quantity which can be doubled by a feeder three miles long.

The Secretary again calls attention to the necessity of developing our most important navy yards. The commercial nations of Europe, from their enormous arsenals (he says) are able to strike our shores sharply and suddenly. Our own yards are generally small in area and very deficient in water front; developed on no well-considered plan, they are imperfectly adapted to the changed condition of construction and equipment.

Iron-clad building yards are also spoken of, and Mr. Robeson hopes to be able hereafter to present some system to be matured under the deliberations of Congress.

The whole expenditure of the Department and the naval service since the date of the last report is $19,203,240.52.

The appropriations for the current fiscal year amount to $20,064,712.25.

The estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, amount to $19,925,507.02, and to these is added the sum of $507,300 for permanent improvements at the several navy yards and stations.

The subject of the reduction of the personnel of the navy is discussed. The whole number of officers of the three highest grades of the navy on the active list is considerably less now than it was before the war. The whole number of officers of the three highest grades of the navy on the active list in 1859 was 555, while on the 1st of July, 1871, the number of officers on the active list in the eight highest grades (including staff officers and those above them) was 488, or 67 less than before the war. Notwithstanding this condition, the Secretary recognizes the desirability of reducing the military establishments of the country, of every kind, to the lowest point consistent with the dignity and safety of the country and its important interests, and with that attitude of good faith and generosity which becomes a great government and a prosperous people toward its faithful and devoted servants. With all these considerations in view, he is of the opinion that there are some grades in our navy now established by law which may be safely and properly reduced or dispensed with in time of peace. The grades of Admiral and Vice Admiral, says the Secretary, should be allowed a lapse with the lives of those who now hold them. The grade of Commodore can be dispensed with at this time. The number of officers of this grade is fixed by law at twenty-five. As our navy is now organized, these officers are not absolutely required for any special duty. It is necessary for the efficiency of the service, and for the dignity, influence, and success of our naval representation abroad, that our fleets on foreign stations should be commanded by officers of the rank of Rear Admiral at least.

The term of cadetship for midshipmen is proposed to be increased by law from four years to six, two of which, at least, shall be spent at sea. By this means, the number of officers annually entering the naval service will be reduced by one-third.

The total reductions suggested are nearly 300 in the number of officers now authorized by law, with an annual saving to the public treasury of near $800,000. This is as far as reductions can be carried at this time without injury or danger.

AGRICULTURE

Commissioner Frederick Watts, in his report to Congress on the workings of the Agricultural Bureau during the past year, says that an intimate relation between the agricultural colleges and his department would be of great service to the country. He thinks that the cause of agriculture in the South and States has not been conducted with that care, skill and regard for ultimate results which have characterized the operations of farmers in other States. While their lands are constantly devoted to cotton and tobacco until they have arrived at a state of exhaustion, those of the North are continually improving by rotation of crops, which is absolutely essential to the fertility of the soil. The department intends to aid the Southern States as much as possible.

The Commissioner also says that "the report of the Superintendent of the Seed Division, and his correspondence with practical farmers, strongly impress his mind with the immense benefit which the distribution of seeds confers upon the country." The Commissioner considers the distribution of the annual reports as an unnecessary expense. In the division of horticulture, he considers that one of the most important items of special work now engaging the attention of this division is the collection of facts illustrating the agricultural status of the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Slope, showing the progress of settlement and colonization, the yield and quality of production, the peculiarities and profit of agricultural labor, and the wants and capabilities of that great continental area.

During the last year the correspondence of the entomological division has largely increased, letters having been received and answered concerning injurious insects, birds, quadrupeds, and other branches of natural history and fruits, fibres, and other subjects as relate to the museum. Full experiments have been made in rearing the silk-worm. The plan of international exchange of seeds has been of great service to the department. The Colonial Secretary of Jamaica has promised a donation of 3,000 plants of the Cinchonas, embracing all the valuable species. In regard to the agricultural productions of the year he says: "The records of the department attest the value of perfect drainage of good cultivation, and dangers from drought and excessive moisture. Such has been the experience of the present year. The area planted with corn was largely increased, and a large breadth of wheat was sown. While the crop of corn will not equal the great yield of 1870, nor that of wheat, the unparalleled crop of 1869, there will be no more supply of both for the wants of this country, and tens of millions of bushels to supplement the short crops of Europe. While the product per acre is not as large as usual, its quality is good, and coarse forage in all sections and winter pasturage in the South and distant West are never-failing resources, and will be wheel of immense quantity, and sold at a higher price. Other crops, as a whole, promise very nearly average returns.

IMPORTANT CATHOLIC MOVEMENT.

Organization of the Lay Societies for Effective Spiritual Work---The Young Men's Christian Union---What it Aims to Accomplish.

From the New York Standard, Dec. 1.

The organization of an association of Roman Catholics, chiefly composed of the most respectable young men in the Catholic community, has been in progress for some months past, and, from all that has been learned regarding it, promises to become the most effective and beneficial auxiliary to the regular ecclesiastical orders. It would appear that it was called into existence by the present peculiar position of the head of the Catholic Church, and it is to be in fact the American offshoot of a European movement which originated after the Sardinian occupation of Rome and Italy. This had in view the protection of the interests of the Pope, and the enlistment in his aid of all the material and moral assistance that Catholic laymen could legitimately and constitutionally afford him. To further these ends "Catholic Unions" were established in England, Belgium, and elsewhere. So successful have they been in enlisting in the service of the Church the sympathies and active cooperation of lay Catholics, that it was determined on the organization of a similar association here. It was felt that the time was come when the enthusiasm and intelligence of Catholic laymen should be utilized by the Church, and under its direction be employed to further those ends which Catholics, laymen and ecclesiastics, both alike, have equally at heart. The first circle of the "Catholic Union" formed in this country was in the Diocese of New Orleans. The second circle is that of New York.

The specific purposes of this union are set forth in the "general constitution," which for the Diocese of New York received the approval of the Archbishop on June 16, 1871. They are to "meet, consult, and act in the defence of Catholic interests; to maintain a spirit of devotion to the Holy Father; and to make unceasing efforts for his deliverance from the hands of his enemies, and for the speedy restoration to the plentitude of his sovereign rights." The union is to be composed of a number of agregate "circles," each circle or branch association being coextensive in its field of action with a diocese. The circles are in communication with a central association. Each circle consists of a council of management and a body of members. The members of the council are active, consultative, and honorary. Each circle is to have the right of "local self-government," but it is expected that all the councils will will unite in forming a "General Assembly." The circles of New York vested its management in a council of not less than seventy-five active members; the first council included some of the most eminent and influential Catholics of New York and Brooklyn, and the accessions to it are daily becoming more numerous. The lay element predominates, the ecclesiastical being represented by the spiritual directors, Very Rev. Patrick Francis Healy, S. J., of St. Francis Xavier College, Sixteenth street, and Very Rev. Thomas F. Preston, Chancellor of the Archdiocese. The Archbishop also exercises a general supervision and the right of disallowing any proposed expenditure. The annual subscription of the ordinary members will be $1 and the counsellors $10. With the money subscribed it is proposed to aid the holy fathers in forwarding Catholic interest here by diffusing Catholic literature, advancing the higher educational interests, and, perhaps, even going so far as to found a university of the highest class. In view of the misrepresentations of the purposes of the Catholic Union abroad---where it was said the Belgian and English unions contemplate crusades and other violent means of redressing the wrongs of the Papacy---the members of the Catholic Union of New York disclaim any such purposes, and declare their intention to be to work by moral and pacific agencies alone. They also, in anticipation of hostile criticism, declare that their action does not propose to form a party in American politics, for while too strong to submit to aggression, they recognize the fact that even if it was the policy of the Catholics to form a separate party here, it is neither in their interest nor their power to do so.

—The London correspondent of the Edinburgh *Scotsman* says, in reference to the ancient and recently revived rumor concerning Mr. Walter, M. P., proprietor of the London *Times*: "There is not any truth whatever in the renewal of the old rumor that Mr. Walter, M. P. for Berkshire, is to be elevated to the peerage by the title of Baron Wokingham. The peerage has not been offered to Mr. Walter. He has not asked for it, and I believe he would not accept it were it offered to him.

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WEST MADISON-ST.,
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60 bales low price twilled and plain Scarlet Flannels.
35 cases brown and bleached Canton Flannels, from 11 1-2c upwards.
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Also, full lines of Prints, Ginghams, Bleached and Brown Cottons, Denims, Tickings, Stripes, Checks, Repellants, Kentucky Jeans, Cottonades, Table Damasks and Linens, Shawls, Quilts, Batts, Laces and Lace Goods (new styles for Holiday trade), Ladies', Children's and Gents' Gloves and Mittens, Woollen Goods, Wool Yarn and Zephyrs.
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1,000 DOZEN NUBIAS, ASSORTED, FROM $4.00 UPWARDS.
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An adjourned meeting of the policy-holders in this company will be held at the office of James Baxter & Co., 43 South Canal-st., on FRIDAY, the 8th inst., at 4 o'clock p. m., to receive the report of their committee appointed to investigate the affairs of said company, and for policy-holders who wish to organize as members to secure a larger per cent than now offered are requested to call at the above office and register their names and amount of their policies.
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FURNITURE CO.,
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